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ExaSAN A08S2-TS

User Guide

Support Host Convertor:

- *Thunderbolt2.0 to PCIe2.0: C1M-G2*

Accusys Storage Ltd.,

Version: V1.0

Revision Sheet

Release No.	Date	Revision Description
V1.0	10/16/2014	Initial release

PREFACE

Notice

The product features and specifications described in this guide are subject to change without notice.

The manufacturer shall not be liable for any damage, or the loss of data resulting from the performance or use of the information contained herein.

About This Guide

Congratulations on your purchase of the ExaSAN (pronounced X-sa-SAN) A08S2-TS, The 8 bay PCIe 2.0 tower model of the ExaSAN family, specifically designed for all post production storage. It delivers stability, exceptional performance, and scalable capacity.

This guide also contains instructions for installing and using the ExaSAN A08S2-TS system and RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) technologies and RAIDGuardX (ExaSAN's RAID management software).

If you are new to RAID and RAIDGuardX, this guide will help you become familiar with the technology, and assist you in setting up and using RAID on the A08S2-TS. If you are already familiar with ExaSAN, use this guide as a reference for implementing your ExaSAN A08S2-TS solution to achieve maximum performance and reliability.

For details of hardware installation, setup, configuration and considerations, see

- Chapter 1, "Introducing ExaSAN PCIe2.0 Storage System"
- Chapter 2, "Preparing to Install ExaSAN A08S2-TS"
- Chapter 3, "Installing ExaSAN A08S2-TS"
- Chapter 4, "Using RAIDGuardX"
- Chapter 5, RAID Overview

Guide to Conventions

Inside the double boxes are important information that users should be aware of:

Caution
This indicates the existence of a potential hazard that could result in personal injury, damage to your equipment or loss of data if the safety instruction is not observed.

Note
This indicates useful tips on getting the most from your Accusys RAID system.

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This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and
(2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

ExaSAN A08S2-TS User Guide

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1. Introducing ExaSAN PCIe 2.0 Storage System

1. Introducing ExaSAN PCIe 2.0 Storage System

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 What is the ExaSAN Solution

Developed by Accusys Storage Ltd., a worldwide leader in RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) storage systems, ExaSAN (pronounced “X-sa-SAN”) is a family of storage and switch products that take advantage of well known PCIe (PCI Express) technology speeds, standards, and roadmap.

The current ExaSAN products employ PCIe2.0 protocol that provides 5 Gb/s per lane transfers. With 4 lane QSFP (Quad SFP) connector and cable, ExaSAN can transfer up to 20 Gb/s by using single connection.

Post production work including non-linear editing (NLE) requires high bandwidth storage to quickly move the volume of data being processed and ExaSAN storage solution meets those demands. The high bandwidth provided by ExaSAN technology allows the client to complete editing tasks in a much shorter time to save time and money.

ExaSAN solution, including its complete line of rack mount RAID systems, tower RAID systems, PCIe switch systems and accessories.

ExaSAN A08S2-TS support to build DAS environment with extreme and modern Thunderbolt connection, cable hot pluggable helping user to easily switch different workstation with same huge storage.

A08S2-TS DAS environment

1.1.2 ExaSAN A08S2-TS features

Below are the key features of the A08S2-TS. They are the reasons why ExaSAN is the best RAID solution for a power user, working on studio, or individual work space.

1. Host Interface

- PCIe2.0 5Gb/s x4 lanes, for transfers up to 20Gb/s

2. Disk Interface

- Support 8 x 3.5” SAS/SATA HDD(hard disks) or 2.5”SSD (flash disks)

3. **RAID Controller**
   - Hardware XOR/Multi-Parity engine
   - 2GB DDRII-800 memory, ECC-protected, support up to 4GB

4. Software Specifications
   - Multiple RAID levels: 0,1,5,6, 0+1, and JBOD
   - Up to 4 independent disk arrays
   - RAID capacity partitioning: up to 16 slices
   - Support up to 64 LUNs
   - Variable stripe sizes: 256 (KB)
   - Selective initialization method with background initialization
   - Online RAID set expansion and level migration
   - Controller and Disk Cache Control to optimize read/write performance
   - Support write-back and write-through caching
   - Automatic drive insertion/removal detection and fast disk rebuilding
   - Online bad block data recovery and reallocation
   - Online disk scrubbing and data refresh and parity regeneration
   - Disk health monitoring by S.M.A.R.T.
   - NVRAM-based transaction log and auto parity resynchronization
   - Array roaming and disk traveling with redundant on-disk metadata
   - Array recovery to restore RAID configurations
   - Dual firmware images for firmware recovery
   - Disk Lag Proof technology to guarantee disk timely response
   - Equalization mode to smooth the performance of sequential data transfers

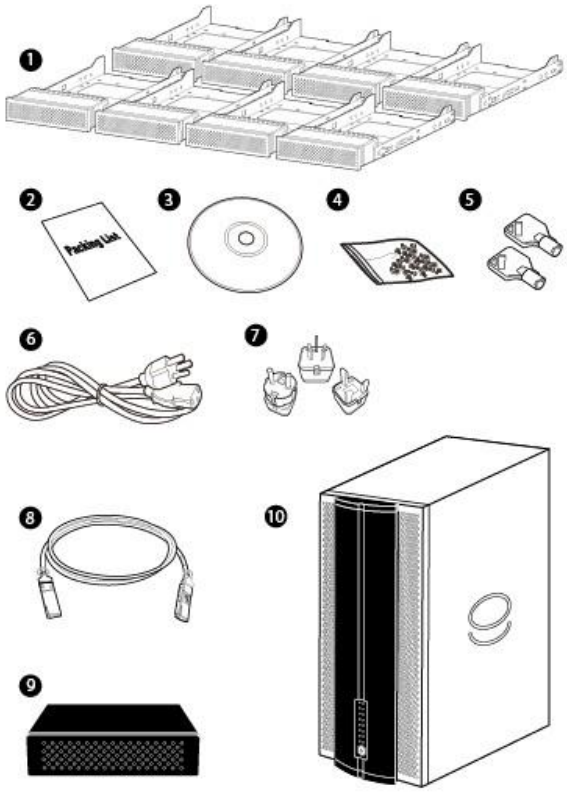
5. Management
   - Java-based GUI, cross-platform executable
   - Enclosure components monitoring and control via GUI
   - LED indicator for RAID & enclosure status
   - Event logging to text file with event viewer
   - Event notification by email (SMTP)
   - Centralized multiple RAID system management
   - Supports both in-band and out-of-band management
   - Support firmware upgrade via GUI
   - Support SNMP
   - Support remote management

6. Enclosure
   - FAN, Power, Temperature status LED indication in the front faceplate.
   - Dimensions: L: 374mm, W:175mm, H:394mm
   - Weight: 11.5 Kg (w/o drives)

7. **Support OS**
   - Windows 7, 8, 2008 and 2012 (32/64bit)
   - Linux: Red Hat, SUSE, Fedora, CentOS etc.
   - MAC: OS X 10.5, 10.6, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9 and later
8. **Operating Conditions**
   - Humidity: 5% - 85%
   - Operating Temperature: 0C – 40C
   - Certification: RoHS, UL, CE, FCC, C-Tick, BSMI
9. **Support Host adapter**
   - Convertor: C1M-G2 (Thunderbolt2.0 to PCIe)
10. **Support Cable**
    - Copper cable:2M

1.2 What's in the Box

Your ExaSAN A08S2-TS is shipped in special packaging to provide protection during transportation. Carefully check your carton contents against the included packing list, or the inside flap of the box, and your original purchase order. You should have the items as described in the sections below.



A08S2-TS packing list

Contact your Accusys System Integrator/Value Added Reseller or Accusys Customer Service (see Appendix C "Customer Service and Technical Support" for more information) to report any missing item.
The Accessories package includes the following items. These items can also be ordered and shipped separately from Accusys.

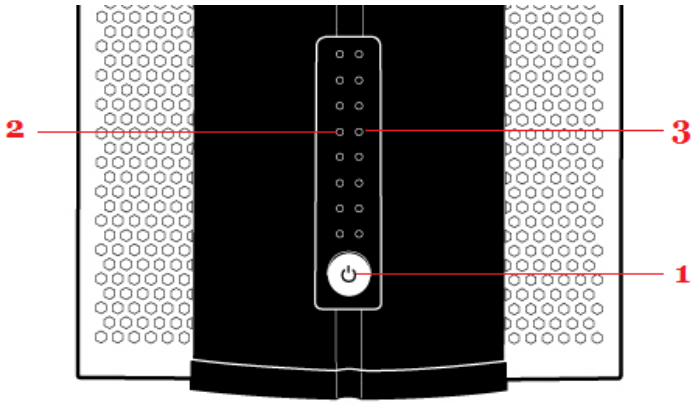
1. Disk tray x 8
2. Packing list
3. Installation DVD
4. Screw pack
5. Key x 2
6. AC Power Cord cable
7. EU, AU, UK converter
8. 2M QSFP copper cable
9. C1M-G2 Convertor
10. ExaSAN A08S2-TS Storage

1.3 Your A08S2-TS at a Glance

This section helps you get familiar with the physical appearance of your ExaSAN A08S2-TS.

1.3.1 ExaSAN A08S2-TS

1.3.1.1 A08S2-TS Front Panel & LED Indicators



There are two columns of LEDs on the front panel, which correspond to the following:

Disk 1 status	Disk 1 activity
Disk 2 status	Disk 2 activity
Disk 3 status	Disk 3 activity
Disk 4 status	Disk 4 activity
Disk 5 status	Disk 5 activity
Disk 6 status	Disk 6 activity
Disk 7 status	Disk 7 activity
Disk 8 status	Disk 8 activity

	Name	Description
1	Power Button	Control the power to the RAID system (Push the button for 5 seconds to shut down the power manually.)
2	Disk status	**Green** is normal **Red** is abnormal by drive defect **Green/ Red Switching** Hard disk drive condition is normal and transiting (Rebuild/Migrate/Expand).

3	Disk activity	**Blue Blinking** is accessing

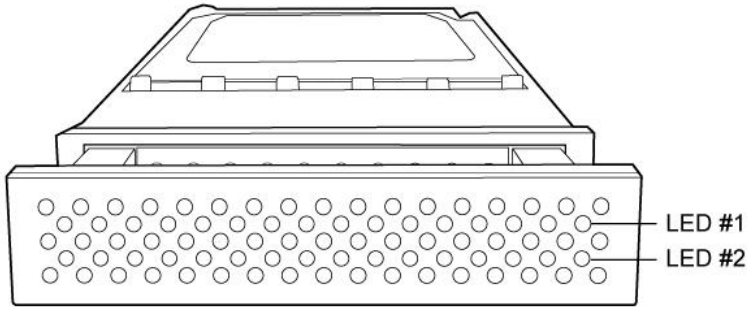
1.3.1.2 Beeper Codes

Controller Status	**Beeper mode**
Turn on the Controller	One short beep
System Panic	Long beep
Controller Work Status, ex: Disk init, disk rebuild, disk expansion, disk migratrion, disk snapshot, etc.	Regularly repeating one short beep
System Problem, ex: Fan issue, Power issue, RAID error, etc.	Regularly repeating three short beeps
Create array successfully	One short beep
Memory test error	Regularly repeating three rapid short beeps

1.3.1.3 Disk Mapping

Disk 1
Disk 2
Disk 3
Disk 4
Disk 5
Disk 6
Disk 7
Disk 8

1.3.1.4 Disk Tray and LED Indicators



Disk Status	**LED #1 (Access LED)**	**LED #2 (Status LED)**
Disk Online		Steady Green
Disk Fail		Steady Red

No Disk		Steady Red
Disk Lock		Steady Green
Disk Access	Flashing Blue	Steady Green
Disk Initialization	Flashing Blue	Steady Green
Disk Rebuild	Flashing Blue	Rebuild Drives: Steady Red Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk Expansion	Flashing Blue	Extend Drives: Steady Red Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk Migration	Flashing Blue	Migrating Drives > Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Steady Green • Original Drives: Steady Green Migrating Drives < Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Steady Red • Original Drives: Steady Green Migrating Drives = Original Drives • Migrating Drives: Steady Green • Original Drives: Steady Green
Disk Health Center Action	Flashing Blue	Steady Green

1.3.1.5 A08S2-TS Rear Panel

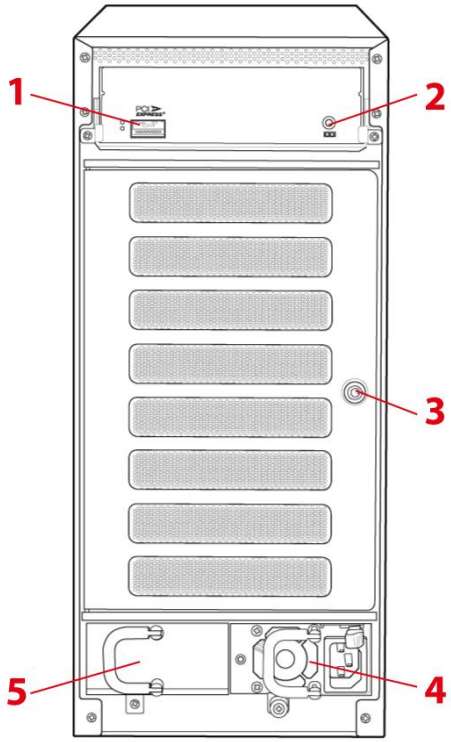
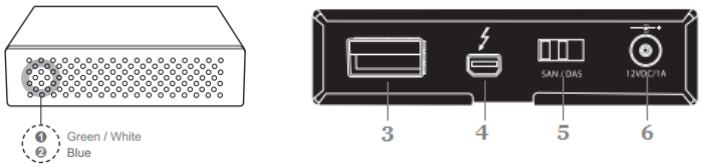


Figure 10: A08S2-TS back view

No.	Name	Description
1	PCIe host port	Host access LED (top): • **Flashing Blue** indicates host accessing is in progress. • **No light** indicates no host accessing. Host connected LED (bottom): • **Flashing Green** indicates the controller is connected normally. • **No light** indicates the controller connected abnormal.
2	Debug port	For engineer debugging only
3	door lock	Lock and unlock the back panel door of drives
4	Power Supply	Connects to a power source with a power cord.
5	Redundant Power Supply (Optional)	Support redundant 300W power supply.

1.3.1.6 C1M-G2



No.	Name	Description
1	Mode/Access indicator	DAS mode in **green**/ SAN mode in **white**/
2	Link indicator	Blue light on when PCIe link up
3	QSFP port	For ExaSAN storage or switch host port
4	Thunderbolt port	For Thunderbolt 2.0 host
5	SAN/DAS mode switch	Set to SAN or DAS mode
6	Power	12V power

Refer to C1M-G2 document on website (http://www.accusys.com.tw/products/accessories/c1m-new/document.html) for more detail.

1.4 What Else You Need

When you purchased your ExaSAN system, additional hardware, software and accessories may be required to fully take advantage of this system. The following describes the software and hardware which you may need to purchase separately. If you still have questions, please consult with your ExaSAN reseller for more details.

1. **Disk drive:** A08S2-TS supports both SAS and SATA interface HDD/SSD drives in 3.5” and 2.5” dimension. Recommend using Enterprise level of the same model, size, and firmware. The A08S2-TS HDD compatibility list is on the Document section of A08S2-TS’s web page.

2. **Host system computer:** A08S2-TS + C1M-G2 support modern workstation equipped with Thunderbolt port, e.g. New MacPro, Macbook Pro, etc.

> **Note**
> C1M-G2 is passed by standard Thunderbolt Certification by Intel and MacOS.

3. **Driver Software:** A08S2-TS required Firmware/ Driver/ BIOS/ GUI are all included in the DVD ROM inside A08S2-TS package. Also, you can download it from the website (http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.html), folder path is /Download /ExaSAN /ForDAS

2. Preparing to Install ExaSAN A08S2-TS

2. Preparing to Install ExaSAN A08S2-TS

To ensure safe and smooth operation of your ExaSAN A08S2-TS, it is essential that you choose an appropriate location for the system, provide an appropriate operating environment, and adequate power for all components of the system. As you plan for installation, follow the guidelines below to ensure that the system and its environment are safely and appropriately positioned for efficient operation and service.

2.1 Precaution for Handling the System

Take the following precautions to avoid damage to the system or potential injury to you.

1. Prepare a flat, sturdy surface before removing the system from its packaging. The table or cart that will hold the system should be as close as possible to the system carton.
2. Ensure that all power switches have been turned off and all power cords disconnected to prevent personal injury and damage to the hardware.
3. Static electricity can damage electronic components of your system. Follow the guidelines below to avoid such damage:
    a. Work in a static-free environment
    b. Wear a grounded anti-static wrist strap
    c. Store uninstalled components in anti-static bags
    d. Handle circuit boards by their edges and avoid touching chips and connectors

2.2 Choosing the Location for the System

The ExaSAN A08S2-TS is designed as a tower solution. Depending on where your desk or rackmount cabinet or other install location is, you should keep the following points in mind when determining where to place your system.

1. Measure the amount of available space on your desk. The amount of space required for the A08S2-TS is L: 374mm, W:175mm, H: 394mm
2. Measure the distance between any two components that need to be connected via cable(s). This measurement will help you determine the length of the required cable(s). Or if you've already purchased the cables, determine the proximity of the components in question.
3. Leave sufficient room, at least two inches, around the unit to allow air ventilation.
4. Do not block or cover any of the ventilation holes in the front and back panels of the unit. Consistent airflow is essential to keeping the system operating efficiently.
5. Allow additional room at the front and back of the unit for service.
6. The ExaSAN A08S2-TS uses several cables and cords. It's a good idea to determine how they will be arranged at the rear of the system, and where the cables will be routed to connect to the host systems and RAID disk systems.

2.3 Electrical Power

At your chosen location for the ExaSAN A08S2-TS, make sure that the electrical circuitry and power outlets are sufficient for the combined power needs of all hardware components. To plan for safe and adequate power to the system, follow these guidelines:

1. Check the documentation for all hardware components at the chosen location to determine their power requirements. Then make sure that the available power supply for that location is sufficient for the planned components.
2. When possible use surge protectors or power conditions as part of the installation.

3. When planning for electrical power, make sure you have more power than the total power requirements specified for all components. Also make certain that the power load is distributed evenly among circuits to that location. Consult an electrician or other expert if you need assistance with planning for the power needs for your components.
4. Make sure that the power outlets for all hardware components are grounded according to local and national standards. Consult an electrician if you need assistance with grounding.

2.4 Operating Environment

The operating environment for the ExaSAN A08S2-TS must meet certain requirements:

1. Verify that the temperature range of the chosen location is within the limits established for the system and all other components.
2. Make certain that the chosen location has adequate ventilation to maintain the necessary temperature range.
3. If there are multiple hardware components installed at the chosen location, consider additional cooling measures to assure efficient operation of the system and other components.
4. Environment parameters:
    a. Operating temperature: 0°C to 40°C (32°F to 104°F)
    b. Operating humidity: 5-85%, non-condensing
    c. Storage humidity:5%-95%, non-condensing

2.5 Security

To ensure the security of the ExaSAN A08S2-TS, make certain that the chosen location meets your security requirements.

3. Installing the ExaSAN A08S2-TS

3. Installing the ExaSAN A08S2-TS

Follow the steps in this chapter to prepare your ExaSAN A08S2-TS system for installation.

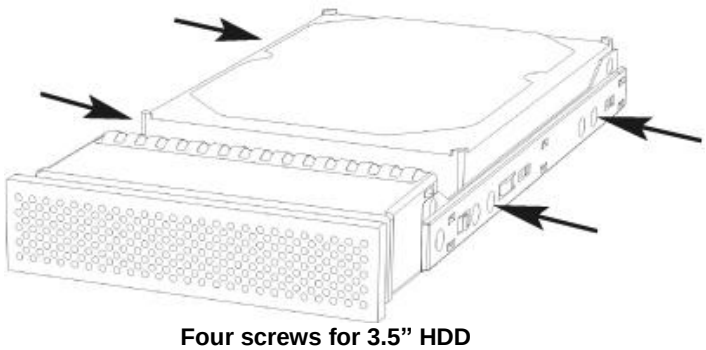
3.1 Installing the System

Follow the instructions in this section to hook up all your hardware components of the ExaSAN A08S2-TS system. Do not turn the power of any individual component on until instructed. When all components are properly connected, follow the instructions in section 3.3.1 “Powering On” to turn the components on in the prescribed order.

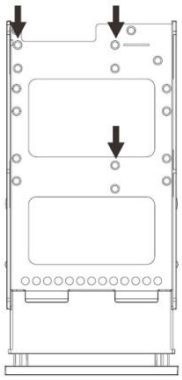
3.1.1 Installing Disk Drives

Follow the steps below to install your HDDs. .

1. Place the HDD with connector align with the edge of the disk tray.
2. Secure HDD with screws as below figure.

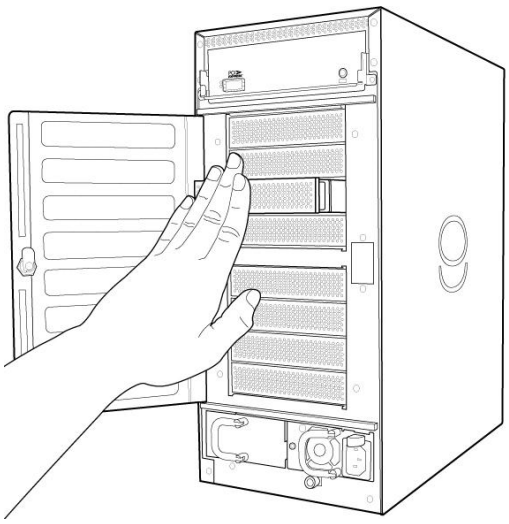


Four screws for 3.5” HDD



Three screws for 2.5” HDD

3. Slide the disk tray into the disk bays on the back of the chassis.



Insert tray into A08S2-TS

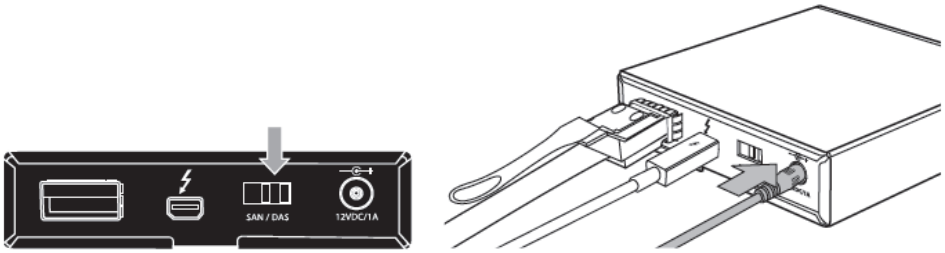
4. Push the tray inward until the tray firmly connects and you hear the tray click into place.

5. Repeat for all drives to be installed into the A08S2-TS.

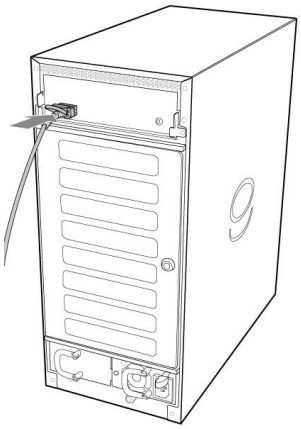
> **Note**
> The hard drives in a RAID system should match in size and speed. All drives in an array should be identical models with the same firmware version.

3.1.2 Connecting A08S2-TS with C1M-G2

1. Set C1M-G2 to DAS mode, connect QSFP cable, Thunderbolt cable and power cord.



2. Connect the other end of QSFP connector to ExaSAN A08S2-TS.



4. Power on A08S2-TS to ready in a few seconds, and then you can connect Thunderbolt cable to host server. Note that, Thunderbolt is Hot Pluggable.

3.2 Install driver and GUI

Before installing driver and GUI, make sure all connections and power on sequences are all correct.

3.2.1 Installing ExaSAN driver and GUI RAIDGuardX

Installation files can be found in DVD of accessory, you can also download the latest version from our website if necessary, check the website if any new version (http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.html). If you need more info or tech support, please contact reseller of ExaSAN product or Accusys FAE Dept. (see Appendix C “Customer Service and Technical Support” for more information)

Note

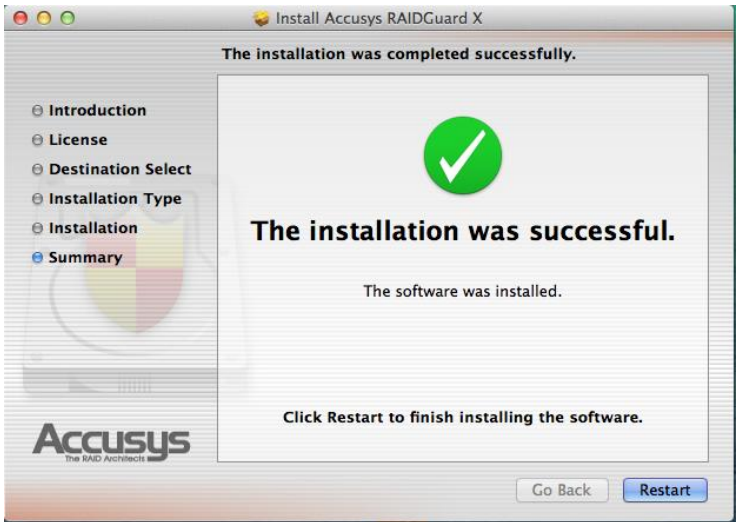
- For Mac/Windows platform:
  Executing installer package to install driver and GUI at the same time.

- For Linux platform:
  Driver and GUI must be built in kernel and executed separately.

3.2.1.1 Installing driver and GUI on MAC and Windows

Driver and GUI Installation

1. Insert the DVD into the DVD-ROM of the MAC or Windows.
2. For Mac, execute double clicking “/MAC Installer/Vx.x/Accusys_IP_MAC3.1.8.mpkg".
   For Windows, execute “/Windows installer/Vx.x/Accusys_Win_x.x.exe”.
   Follow the onscreen instructions to install and click **Restart** to complete installation.



GUI installation successful page

3.2.1.2 Installing driver and GUI on Linux

Following procedures contain 2 procedures;

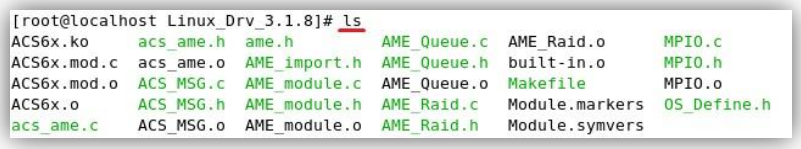
- **Driver installation**
- **GUI RAIDGuardX installation**

Driver Installation

You must have your Linux system with developmental environment and kernel source, in other words you should select the adequate packages on the menu list during installation. Check "Development Tools" Then click "Optional Packages" to select all packages when you install your Linux OS.

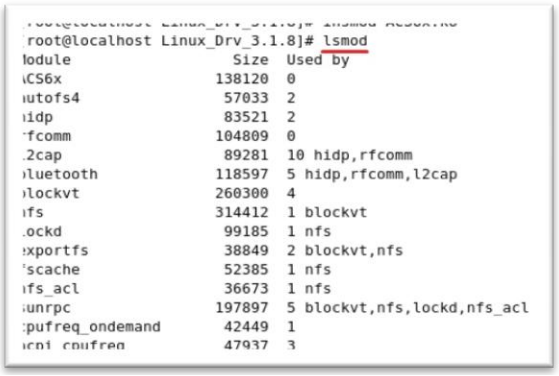
1. Copy the ExaSAN RAID system driver files onto your desktop. Open a terminal window and type the following commands to change the source files directory.

   # cd 'root/Desktop/Linux_Drv_x.x.x
   # make
   # ls


[root@localhost Linux_Drv_3.1.8]# ls
ACS6x.ko acs_ame.h ame.h AME_Queue.c AME_Raid.o MPIO.c
ACS6x.mod.c acs_ame.o AME_import.h AME_Queue.h built-in.o MPIO.h
ACS6x.mod.o ACS_MSG.c AME_module.c AME_Queue.o Makefile MPIO.o
ACS6x.o ACS_MSG.h AME_module.h AME_Raid.c Module.markers OS_Define.h
acs_ame.c ACS_MSG.o AME_module.o AME_Raid.h Module.symvers

   Verify that driver ACS6x.ko has been compiled. If so, please type the following command to install it.

   # insmod ACS6x.ko
   # lsmod



The driver (ACS6x) should be now loaded in Linux driver module list.

Note:

1. Login as **root**, install driver will need root permission.
2. If you want to **start the driver automatically**, please put the compiled driver (ACS6x.ko) to directory as follows:

   #cp ACS6x.ko /lib/modules/ "uname –r"/kernel/drivers/scsi

   [For RHEL, CentOS, etc]
   #depmod –a

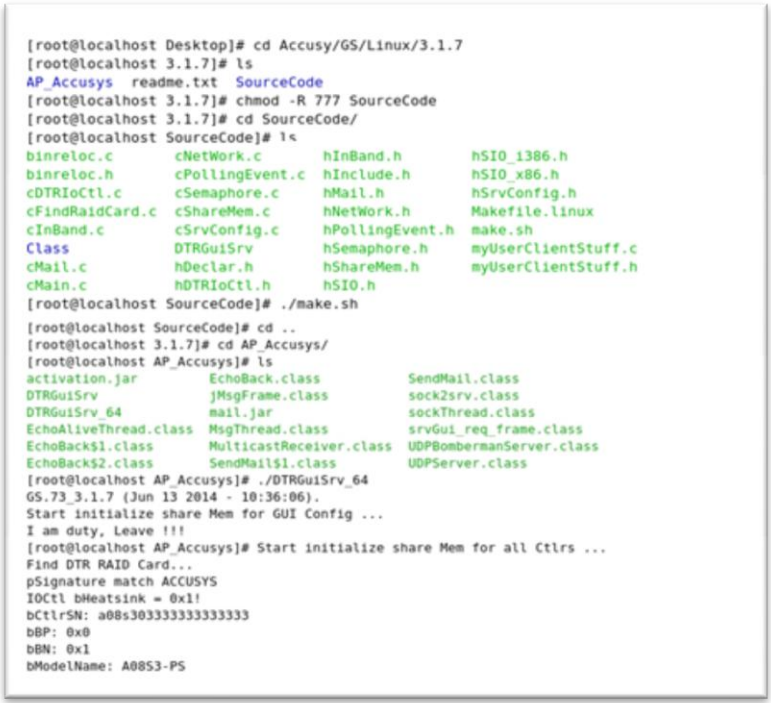
   [For SLES OS]
   #vi /etc/modprobe.d/unsupported-modules
   (Modify the line "allow_unsupported_modules 1")
   #mkinitrd
   (**Warning:** recommend to backup /boot/initrd-`uname -r` before doing "mkinitrd", if any trouble)
   #reboot

GUI RAIDGuardX Installation

Before installing RAIDGuardX, make sure the RAID HBA drivers is already installed in your Linux OS.

1. You will need two source files; GS (RAIDGuardX Server) and GC (RAIDGuardX Client), you can download from Accusys website: http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.html.
   GS location: /{ExaSAN model}/GUI/Server/Linux.zip
   GC location: /{ExaSAN model}/GUI/Client/x.x.x.zip
2. Create folder “Accusys”, and unzip GS/GC files to subfolder GS and GC.
3. Perform GS, open a terminal console, and enter the following commands:

   # cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X
   # chmod -R 777 SourceCode
   # cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X/SourceCode/
   # ./make.sh
   # cd /Accusys/GS/Linux/X.X.X/AP_Accusys/
   # ./DTRGuiSrv_64



Note: Leave the GS terminal there and **DON’T** close it. Open another new terminal to perform GC.

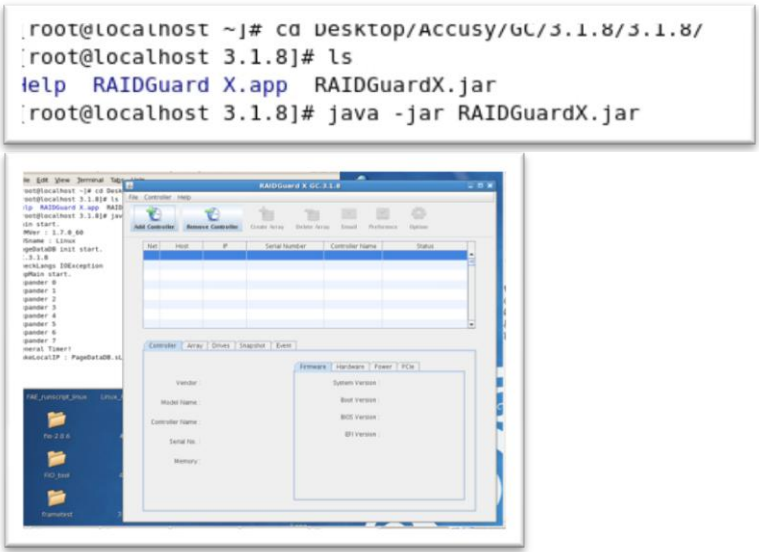
4. Perform GC, first to make sure the Java version is higher than 1.6, enter the following commands:

   # java –version

[root@localhost ~]# java -version
java version "1.6.0_14"
Java(TM) SE Runtime Environment (build 1.6.0_14-b08)
Java HotSpot(TM) Client VM (build 14.0-b16, mixed mode, sharing)
[root@localhost ~]#

If your Java version is earlier than 1.6, please go to www.java.com to upgrade. If version is ok, please enter the following commands:

 # cd /Accusys/GC/x.x.x./x.x.x/
 # java –jar RAIDGuardX.jar


root@localhost ~]# cd Desktop/Accusy/GC/3.1.8/3.1.8/
root@localhost 3.1.8]# ls
lelp RAIDGuard X.app RAIDGuardX.jar
root@localhost 3.1.8]# java -jar RAIDGuardX.jar

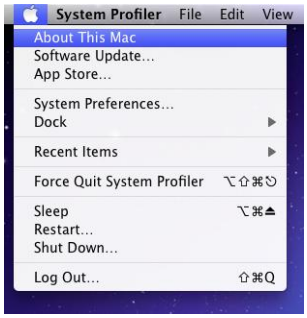
Now you can add controller to config and manage ExaSAN system.

3.2.2 Confirm the ExaSAN RAID system driver on OS

3.2.2.1 Confirming the ExaSAN RAID system driver on Mac

After installing the ExaSAN RAID system HBA driver on the Mac host server, confirm the driver has been properly installed with the following steps.

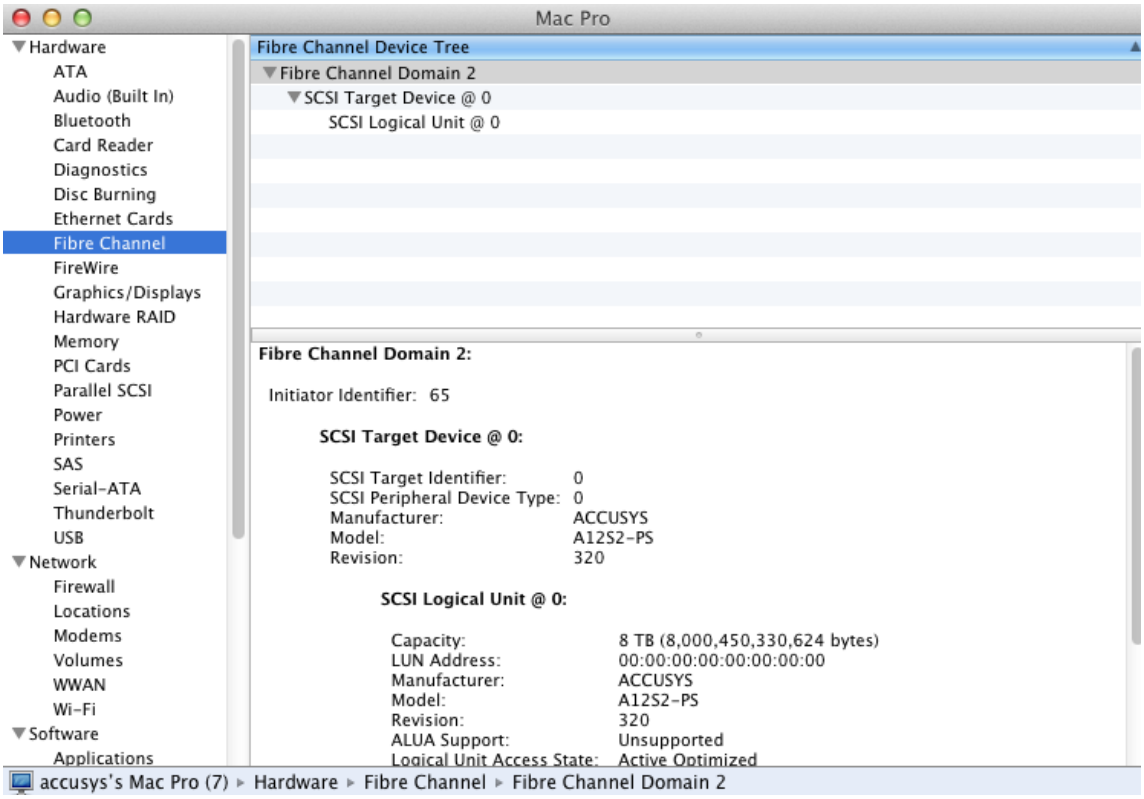
1. Click on **About This Mac** and lick on the **More Info…** button, then Click on the **System Report…** button.



About This Mac
Mac OS X
Version 10.7.1
Software Update…
Processor 2 x 2.8 GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
Memory 4 GB 667 MHz DDR2 FB-DIMM
Startup Disk Mac OS X 10.7
More Info…

About This Mac
Mac Pro
Early 2008
Processor 2 x 2.8 GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon
Memory 4 GB 667 MHz ECC DDR2 FB-DIMM
Graphics NVIDIA GeForce GT 120 512 MB
Serial Number G88163YYXYK
Software Mac OS X Lion 10.7.1 (11B26)
System Report…
3 Software Updates…

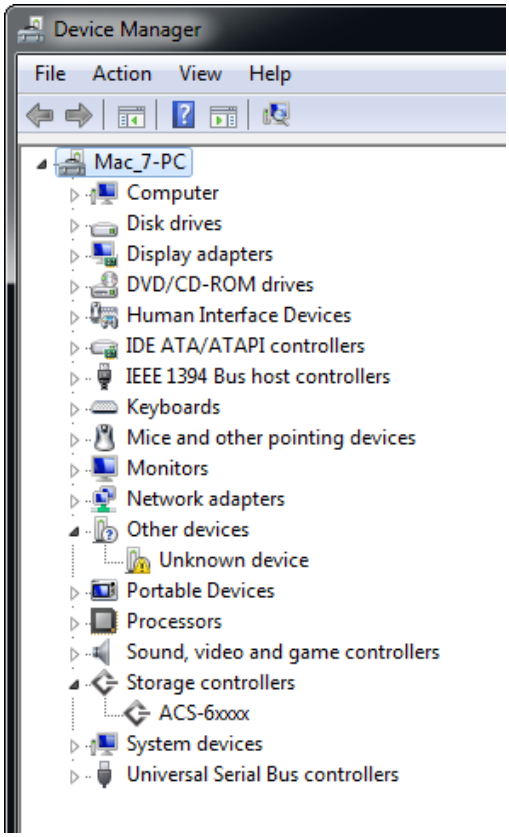
2. MacOS recognize ExaSAN as Fibre device, under the **Hardware** category, click on **Fibre Channel** to bring up information. If HBA (or C1M) has been correctly installed, it will appear a **Fibre Domain**. If there is a SAN volume, it will show as a **SCSI logical unit**



3.2.2.2 Confirming the ExaSAN RAID system driver in Windows

After installing the ExaSAN RAID system HBA driver on a Windows based host server, confirm the driver has been properly installed.

Go to **Control Panel -> System Properties -> Hardware -> Device Manager** (depending on the version of Windows, the path may vary). If the driver has been correctly installed, the HBA is listed with the **ACS6x** identifier (actual name may vary) as **Storage Controllers**.



device manager in Windows platform

> **Caution**
> If you see the HBA listed as an unknown device under Windows, follow the driver installation steps to reinstall the driver. If you do not see the HBA under Device Manager, Windows does not detect the card. Power off the host server to reseat the HBA.

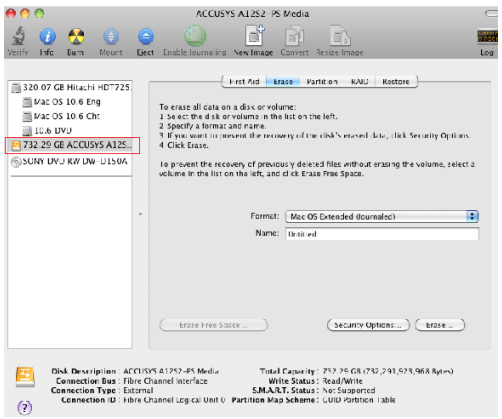
3.2.3 Confirm LEDs on HBA

Verify the Link and Access LED on the backplane of the HBA are appropriately lit according to your installation (Refer to Section 1.5.2 ExaSAN QSFP Host Bus Adapter). Onboard LEDs of Z2M indicate more link status, please refer to the Appendix A FAQ Q3.

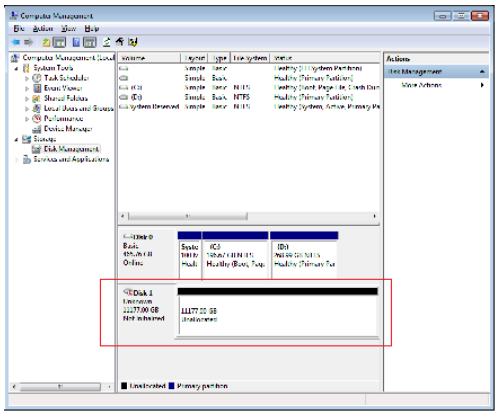
3.3 Create Array

Array can be easily created by RAIDGuard X (refer to Section: Creating an Array). Make sure LUN mapping (refer to Section: LUN mapping) is setup, and then volume should be appeared on OS, now, enjoy the high speed access to new ExaSAN Volume.

3.3.1 Check on new Volume in Disk Utility of MacOS

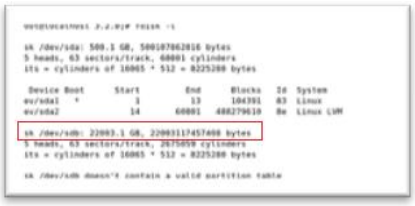


3.3.2 Check on new volume in Disk Management of Windows



3.3.3 Check on new volume by fdisk command on Linux

fdisk -l



4. Using RAIDGuardX

4. Using RAIDGuardX GUI

4.1 RAIDGuardX Overview

RAIDGuardX is a powerful GUI management tool, which support local and remote monitoring of multiple controllers that are connected to the same network. RAIDGuardX have to work with 2 components: RAIDGuardX-Server and RAIDGuardX-Client.

RAIDGuardX-Server: Communicates with RAIDGuardX-Client and RAID controller, it MUST be installed on which host directly connected to RAID system.

> **Note**
> RAIDGuardX Server is default installed in ExaSAN Switch, therefore, in the SAN environment, you can run RAIDGuardX Client alone to manage RAID controller.

RAIDGuardX-Client: A java based console to manage and monitor RAID system, which MUST works with RAIDGuardX-Server via local server or switch remotely.

Feature

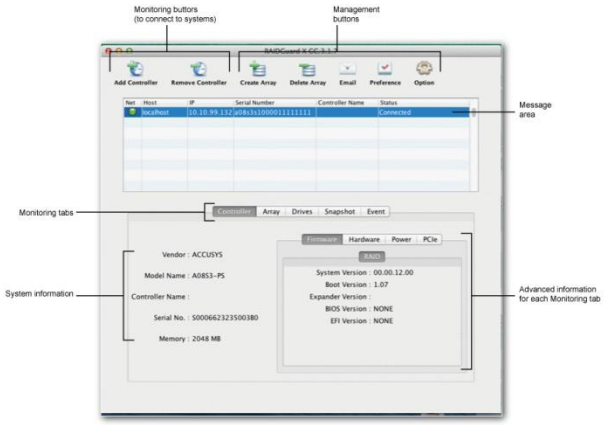
- Easily manage and morning by Java Based GUI
- Support multiple RAID system
- Multi-platform and operating system
- Remote monitoring
- Event notification

RAIDGuardX-Client console

It is consist of **menu bar** and **main console**.

- menu bar

- main console



4.1.1 RAIDGuardX at a Glance

4.1.1.1 Menu Bar

The menu bar across the top contains the following functions:

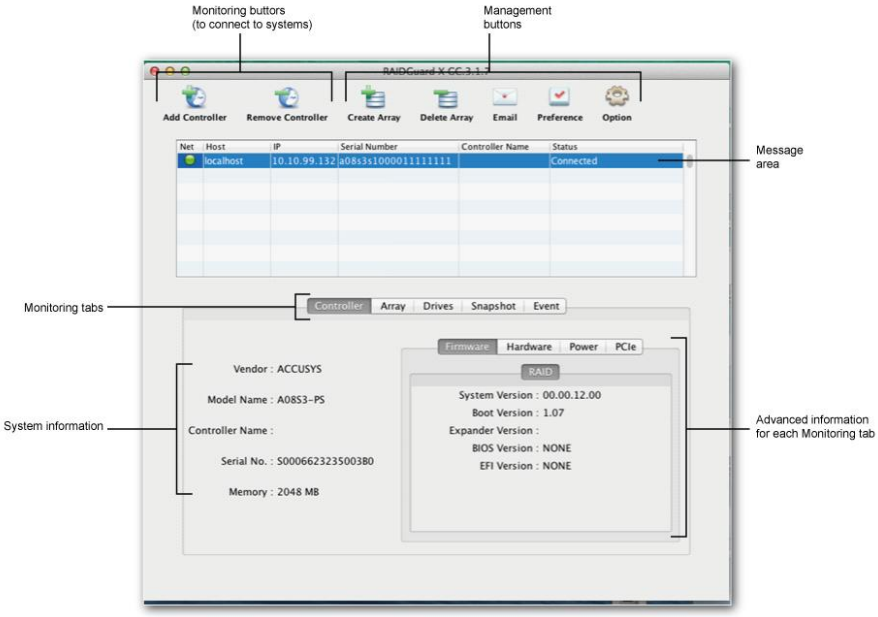
Function		Description
File	Exit	Close the program
	Load Controller List	Refresh the controller list
	Language	English and Japanese are supported
Controller	Manual Add Controller	Manually search and add the controller
	Update	Update RAID controller firmware (System Code, Boot Code, etc.)
	Dump controller log	Download the event log for troubleshooting
Help	Search	Search keyword in RAIDGuard X
	Help Center	Displays the help for RAIDGuard X

Note
Run **Dump controller log**, events are automatically generate a zip file and saved on directory as below;

1. MacOS: save in /Applications/RAIDGuard X/Log
2. Windows: save in /program file/accusys/exasan/log
3. Linux: save in /{RAIDGuard X install folder}/log

Please send the log file to your vendor or Accusys tech support team to analyze. support@accusys.com.tw

4.1.1.2 RAIDGuard X main console



Function	Description	
Monitoring Buttons	**Add controller** into RAIDGuard X (for DAS only)	
	Remove controller from RAIDGuard X	
Management Buttons	**Create array** in the RAID system	
	Delete array in the RAID system	
	Email to set email notification	
	Preference	**Drive Lag Proof** Enable/ Disable
		NCQ mode Enable/ Disable
		SMART Mode Enable/ Disable
		Beeper Enable/ Disable
		Equalization Enable/ Disable
		Cache of controller and drives can be enable/disable
		MISC for controller Time setup
	Option	**Slicing** an existing array for multiple slices
		LUN Map setup for multiple slices
		Expansion with new drive into an array
		Migration between different RAID level
		Snapshot for backup data in a particular time
		Health Center for check array status
		Unlock Drives from locked mode

4.1.2 Adding Controller

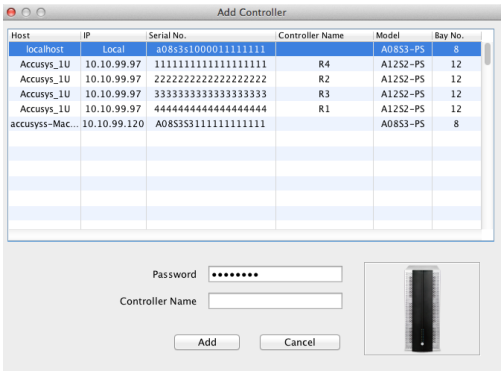
RAIDGuardX can manage the RAID controller locally or remotely via intranet access.

Two configurations to add RAID controller into RAIDGuardX Client.
1) DAS - Click icon **Add Controller** in the main page of RAIDGuardX Client locally.
2) SAN - Clicking **Manually Add Controller** in controller tab to add remotely.

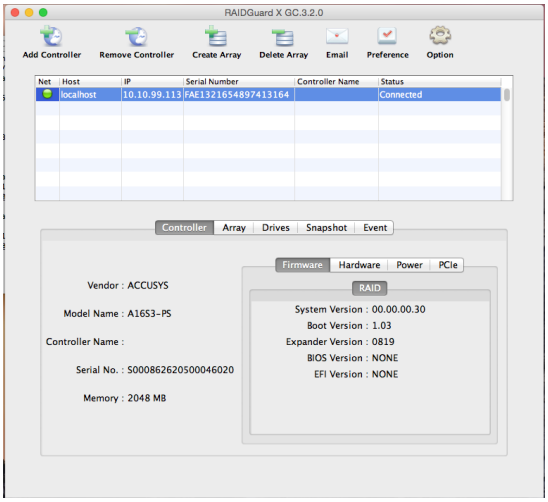
Following steps for add controller in detail;

(1) DAS – add controller locally

1. Click **Add Controller** to display a list of available controllers on local and network.
2. Click on a controller and enter password, default is 00000000 (8 zeros). (you can assign a name to the controller for remark)



3. Click **Add** to main page.

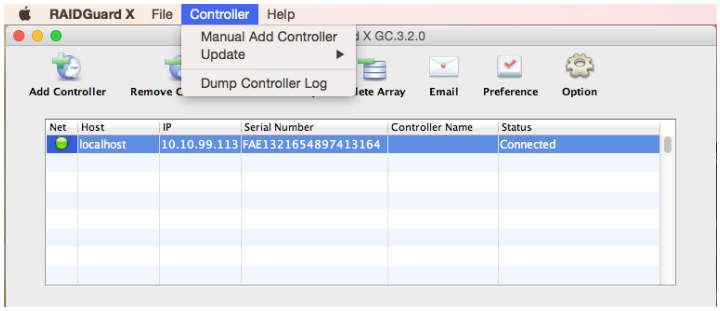


Note
To change the controller password, refer to Section MISC.

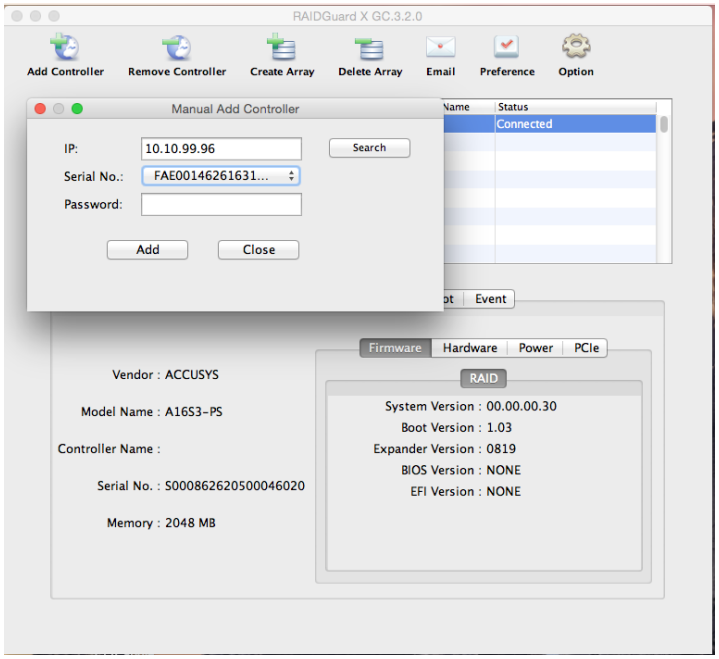
(2) SAN – add controller remotely

In a SAN connection, you can manually add controller via network.

1. Click on Controller on the menu bar and select **Manual Add controller**.



2. Enter the Server or Switch IP.



3. Click **Search** and wait for the Serial Number to populate.
4. Type the password (default is 00000000) for the controller.
5. Click **Add** to finish adding the controller.

> **Note**
> To remove a controller from RAIDGuardX list, select a controller and then click the **Remove Controller** button to remove the controller from the table. When the popup window appears, select **Yes**.

4.1.3 Planning your RAID

Before create RAID, it is a good idea to become familiar with the variety of configurations, or schemes, that are available for the ExaSAN RAID storage. This section describes these schemes and illustrates how each RAID level is applied.

RAID Level	Description	Capacity
RAID 0	Striping, the fastest and most efficient array type but offers no fault-tolerance	Total of all drives
RAID 1	Mirroring, All disks have the same data	Total of one drive
RAID 5	Block-level striping with distributed parity, one disk fault tolerant	Total of all drives minus one drive
RAID 6	Block-level striping with double distributed parity, two disks fault tolerant	Total of all drives minus two drives
RAID 0+1	Combines the advantage of R0 and R1, provides optimal speed and reliability	One-half the total capacity of drives (Sum of RAID 1 member sets)

When configuring RAID, you may take the follow items into consideration:

1. Are you using a DAS or SAN environment?
2. Do you currently have more than one RAID or JBOD?
3. Which is more important, transfer speed or data security? One or two disk fault tolerance?
4. Do you need multiple volume or single volume on your RAID systems?
5. Do you have to consider the metadata volume for SAN software?
6. Do you consider using Global spare drives?
7. The number of disk drives used determines the speed of the RAID created. Take into account the desired speed when configuring RAID.

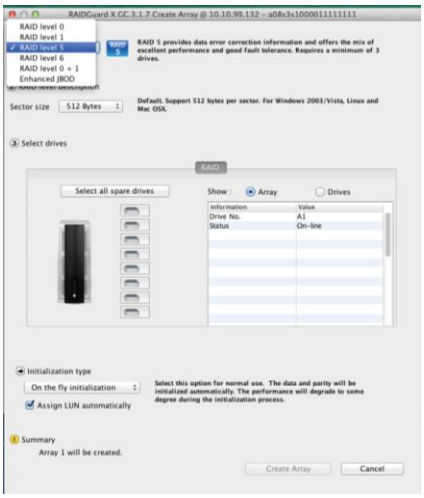
4.1.4 Creating an Array

When the RAID controller is first configured, an array needs to be set up. This array tells the controller how many disks to use and what their function should be.

Follow the steps below to create an array:

1. Select the RAID level from the drop down menu. Available levels are: 0, 1, 5, 6, 0+1 and JBOD.

> **Note**
> Each RAID level has a minimum disk requirement. This is shown in the information to the right of the drop down list. For example, RAID 5 requires at least 3 drives.



2. Select the sector size from the drop down menu. Available sector sizes are 512 bytes (default) and 4096 bytes. The sector size 4096 bytes is only supported by Windows XP, and over 2 Terabyte function is used. For other OSs, please select 512 bytes (default)

3. Click on the drives to be added to the array. You can also click on **Select all spare drivers**.

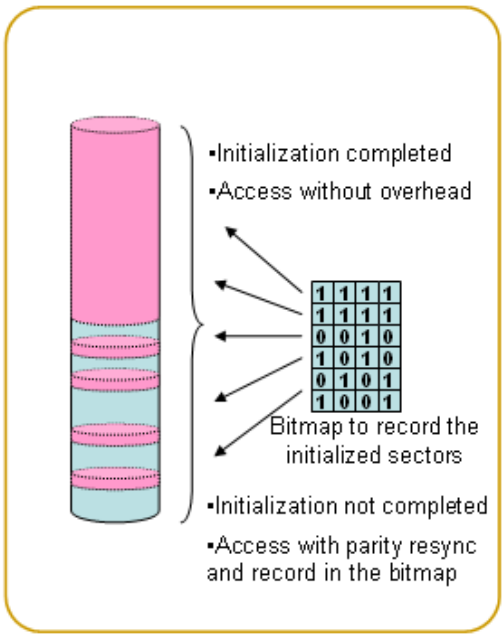
> **Note**
> Unselected drives will be set to Hot (Global) spare drive. If a drive failure, spare drive will start to rebuild automatically.

4. Select initialization mode in either **On-the-fly initialization** or **Performance evaluation**.

On-the-fly initialization – ExaSAN RAID systems record the initialized sectors in the bitmap. All sectors are initialized only once. The entire initialization process will be completed faster and the performance will be better during the initialization.

During on-the-fly initialization, 65-75% of the full speed (of a created RAID) is still available. You can still use the RAID system during the RAID initialization.

Select this option (default) to ensure the completeness of the array. If this option is selected, it will recalculate the disk parity and data organization (how it is arranged). The amount of time required for the initialization process varies depending on the disk volume.

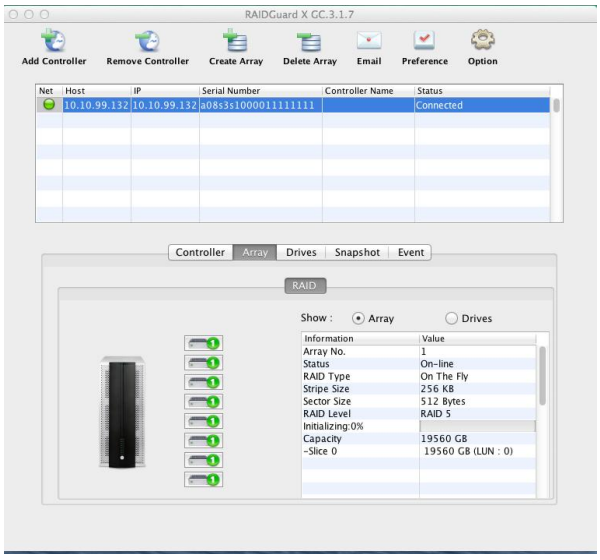

▪Initialization completed
▪Access without overhead
Bitmap to record the initialized sectors
▪Initialization not completed
▪Access with parity resync and record in the bitmap

Performance evaluation – Select to evaluate the performance of the target array. Data and parity are not initialized. (No data protection when this mode is on).

> **Note**
> For on-the-fly option, you are able to access the array volume during initialization. However, the RAID performance of the array will be slightly lower than usual before the initialization is complete.

5. Assign LUN automatically. Once check this box, array will automatically assign a LUN. If there are multiple slices, you may choose to assign LUN manually under **Option**.

6. Click **Create Array** to complete the process. You can check the initial status in below page.



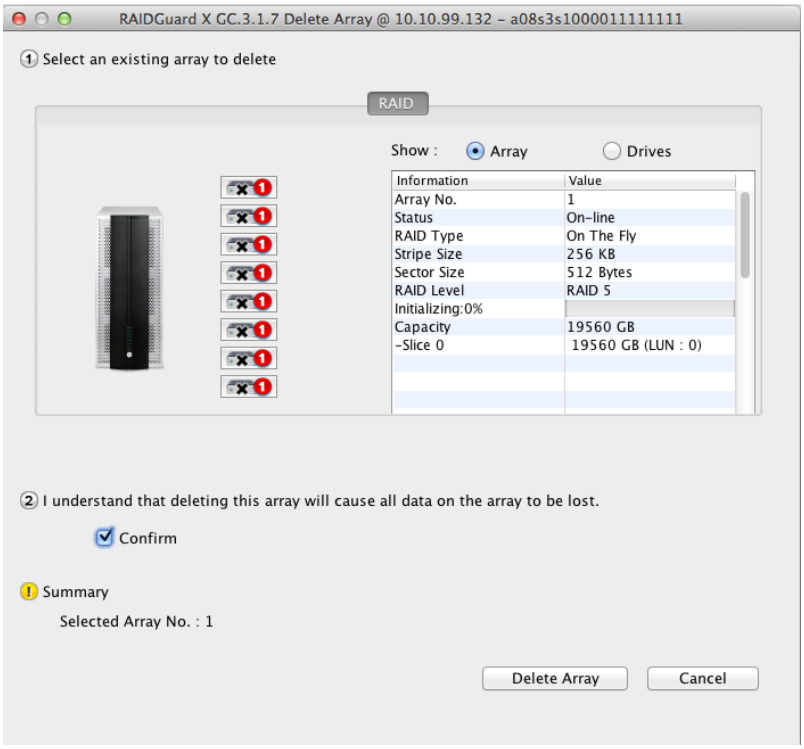
After the array has been created, the Main screen displays the newly created array with an array number. The array initialization progress is also displayed.

Arrays are assigned numbers in the order they are created. For example, the first array created is labeled with the “1” icon; the second array created is labeled with the “2” icon, and so forth.

> **Note**
> The ExaSAN RAID controller can support up to maximum of 4 arrays per RAID controller

Delete an Array

1. Click on the drives containing the array to be deleted.
2. Check the **Confirm** box. Click **Delete Array** to complete the process.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 Delete Array @ 10.10.99.132 – a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an existing array to delete
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Initializing:0%
Capacity 19560 GB
-Slice 0 19560 GB (LUN : 0)
2 I understand that deleting this array will cause all data on the array to be lost.
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
Delete Array
Cancel

> **Caution**
> When you delete an array, all data on the hard disk drives will be lost.

4.1.5 Email Notification

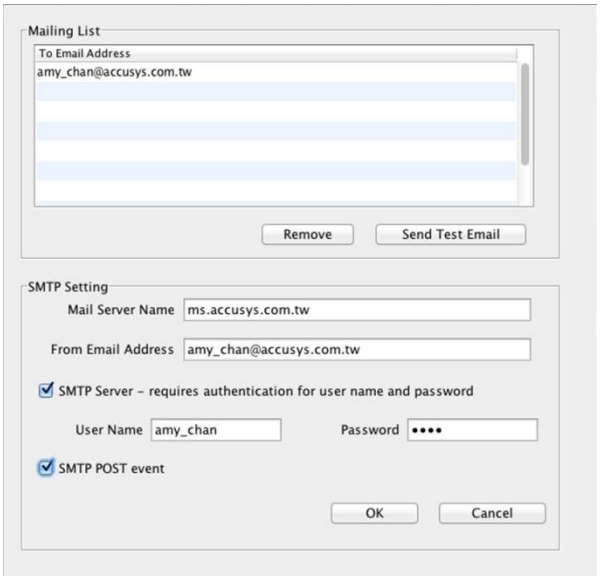
It may be necessary for network administrators to receive e-mails in the event of errors, alerts, and changes to the RAID array. These alerts can be e-mailed to a maximum of 20 e-mail addresses.

Mailing List
Enter the e-mail address(es) of people to receive controller error reports.
Click **Remove** to delete e-mail addresses from the list.
Click **Send Test Email** to check that the e-mail is working.

SMTP Setting
Mail Server Name – Enter the address of the mail server.
From Email Address – Enter the e-mail address of the mail server.
SMTP Server – requires authentication for user name and password
Check this box if your mail server requires a user name and password.

SMTP POST event
Check this box if wish to create a log for error events.

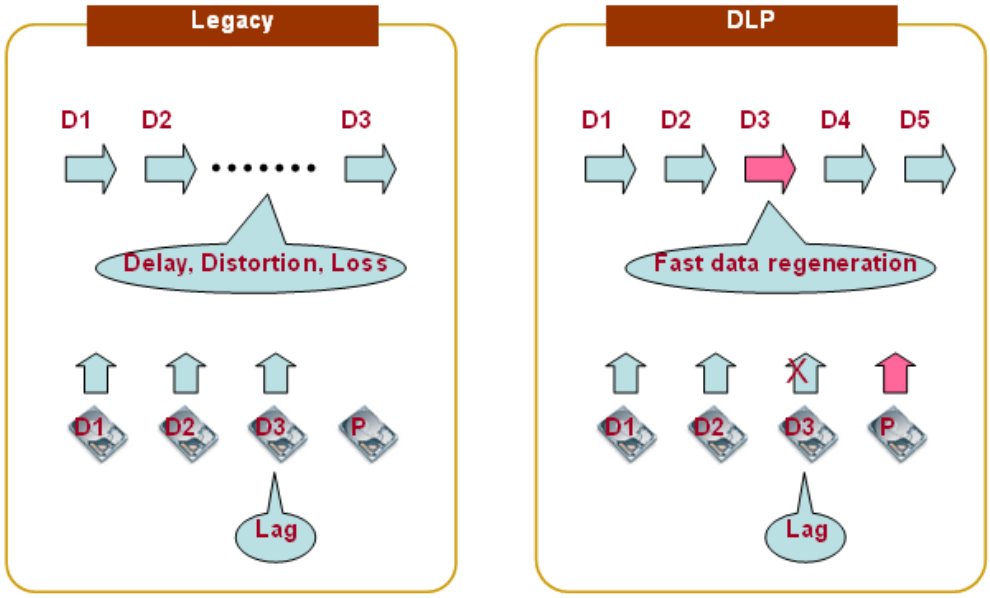
> **Note**
> 1. Ask your systems administrator for SMTP Server details.
> 2. Not support outbound SMTP mail service, e.g. Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo.
> 3. Contact to tech support for more detail.



4.1.6 Preference

4.1.6.1 Disk Lag Proof Mode

This feature ensures the stability and continuity of the RAID performance. In RAID 5 and RAID 6, DLP prevents the aging or slow responds of a single hard disk from influencing the overall performance. The advantage of this feature will not be felt until some hard disks fail to perform well.



DLP concept

In the event of performance degradation or delay of a single drive due to aging, the ExaSAN RAID system reads both data and parity stripes concurrently. It bypasses the slow reads and returns data to the host with the regenerated data and to provide stabled performance based on the RAID parity.

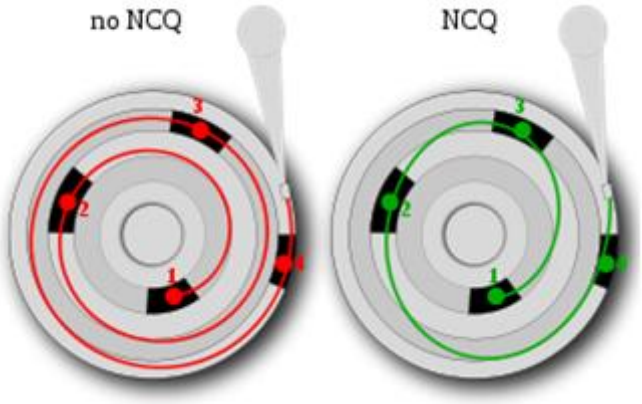
> **Note**
> Although slow responds of some hard disks can be tolerated in DLP mode, you may use S.M.A.R.T. function to check the conditions of hard disks in an array and replace the faulty ones.

> **Note**
> This function does not support JBOD and NRAID.

4.1.6.2 NCQ

NCQ (Native Command Queuing) – This mode is designed for increasing disk drive access on SCSI and SATA disk drives. It can do this under certain situations by allowing the individual hard disk to internally optimize the order in which it executes the read and write requests it receives. This can reduce the amount of unnecessary drive head movement and resulting in better performance for work loads where multiple read/write requests and outstanding at the same time.

This situation most often occurs in server-type applications. However, the current technology actually slows down disk drive access in certain applications, such as video editing and sequential reads and writes, because of the added latency induced by NCQ.



NCQ concept

The figure above illustrates the access sequence in NCQ and non-NCQ mode. The content sequences of the two hard disks are the same: 1, 2, 3, 4. However, the access sequence in NCQ mode may vary to improve the performance.

> **Note**
> If Equalization mode is enabled, NCQ is automatically turned off.

4.1.6.3 SMART Mode

S.M.A.R.T. is a monitoring system of disk drives to detect and report on various indicators of reliability, in the hope of anticipating failure. ExaSAN RAID system supports S.M.A.R.T. Once this function is selected, you can select the check interval from the drop-down list. Choose from 1 minute to 8 hours for SMART Mode to be active. The RAID controller will command each hard disk to perform S.M.A.R.T. according to the check interval selected. The check results will be shown as an Event message in the main menu.

When running S.M.A.R.T., the performance of the system will be slightly affected. The higher the check frequency, the more the sequential access is influenced. It is recommended to turn off S.M.A.R.T. if high frequency is needed. On the other hand, running S.M.A.R.T. constantly allows you to monitor the conditions of hard disks at any time.

Different hard disk models and brands will have different attributes in the reporting of S.M.A.R.T. Event message will show all messages generated by the hard disk.

The option of time to check disk's S.M.A.R.T are 1,15,30,60 minutes and 2,4,8 hours. We strongly suggest set to 8 hours. Frequently check time will reduce the life time of hard drives

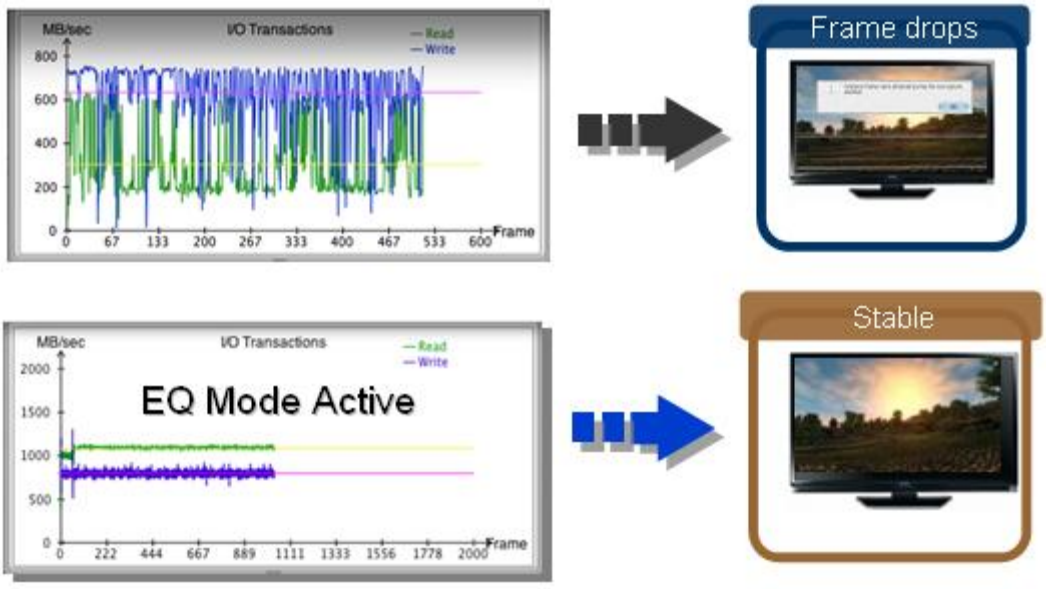
4.1.6.4 Beeper

Default Beeper option is enabled, the system will sound an audible alarm in the event of an error. Users can respond to the error promptly and carry out troubleshooting.

If the error indicated by the Beeper alarm has been resolved, you may uncheck the **Beeper** option.

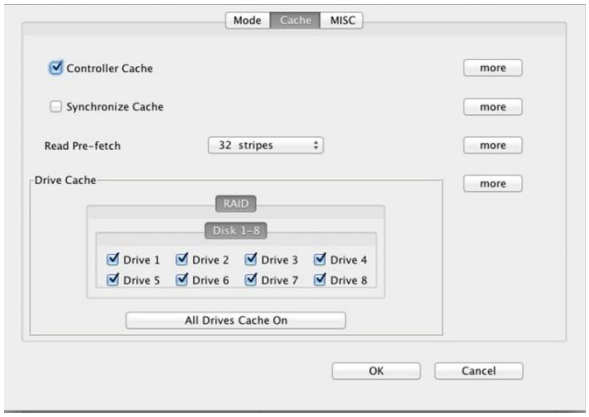
4.1.6.5 Equalization Mode

Regardless the transmission method, the data transmission speed cannot be guaranteed at all times. This feature allows the continuous I/Os to operate more smoothly and substantially reduce large fluctuations in efficiency during data transfer. For video editing, enable equalization to prevent video frame drops.



EQ mode concept

4.1.6.6 Cache



Controller Cache – Check this box to enable the controller cache. This speeds up the data transfer to and from the disks.

> **Caution**
> Data in cache may be erased if power down unexpected. Suggest using a UPS (uninterruptible power supply) to prevent this scenario.

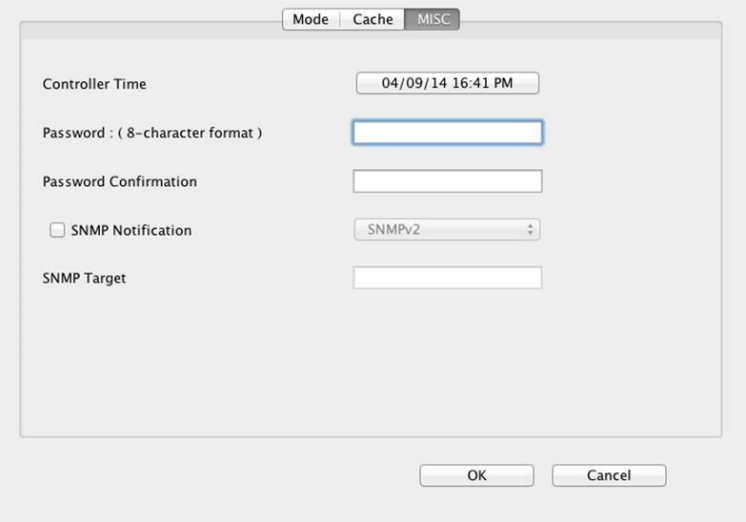
Synchronize Cache – Check this box to enable cache synchronization with drives, to ensure all write data is correct, there is a frequently latency time within. For video capture, disable synchronization, because the video capture needs to be able to constantly write data to the RAID storage without long latency.

Read Pre-fetch – Identifies sequential access patterns and aggressively pre-fetches patters into cache. From the drop down list, choose the number of stripes to pre-fetch. The default is 32; this is the recommended number.

Drive Cache – Choose which drives to cache. When more than one application accesses the database, the first applications cache needs to synchronize with the second. Each drive contains a built in write cache; checking these boxes chooses which drives to enable the caching on. Caching improves the efficiency and speed of data transfer.

All Drives Cache On/All Drives Cache Off – Click this button to enable/disable the caching on for all available drives.

4.1.6.7 MISC



MSIC (Minimal Instruction Set Computer) has standard RAID controller CPU time settings. The time of each event is displayed in the event logs in Event message.

Controller Time – Click this button to see a calendar and to change the time and date of the controller.

Password – Enter the new controller password. The default password is 00000000 (8 zeros). Type another 8 characters.

Password Confirmation – Confirm the new controller password.

> **Note:**
> Do not lose your password. If it is lost, you will have to contact your agent or the Accusys Support Team.

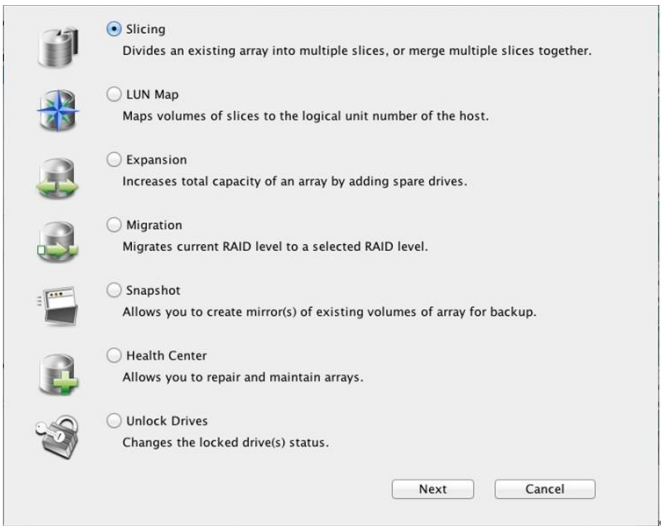
SNMP Notification – Select **SNMPv1** or **SNMPv2** to send notifications for error conditions and possible problems to the SNMP servers. SNMP stands for Simple Network Management Protocol.

SNMP Target – Enter the IP address for sending the SNMP notifications.

> **Note:**
> The ExaSAN RAID system supports SNMP. It can set "System on IP networks" and allows servers to manage the system remotely.

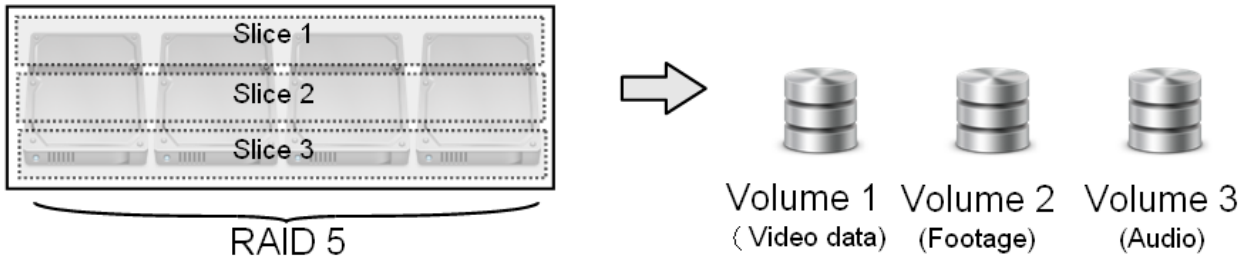
4.1.7 Option

The Options menu provides the methods for managing array. Click on the radio button for the required option, and then click **Next** to proceed.


Slicing
Divides an existing array into multiple slices, or merge multiple slices together.
LUN Map
Maps volumes of slices to the logical unit number of the host.
Expansion
Increases total capacity of an array by adding spare drives.
Migration
Migrates current RAID level to a selected RAID level.
Snapshot
Allows you to create mirror(s) of existing volumes of array for backup.
Health Center
Allows you to repair and maintain arrays.
Unlock Drives
Changes the locked drive(s) status.
Next
Cancel

4.1.7.1 Slicing

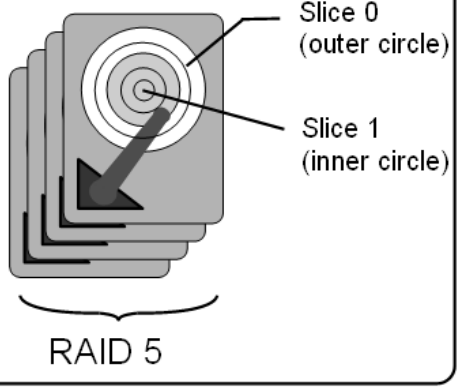
ExaSAN RAID slicing overcomes the inherent design of how data is stored on an HDD or RAID system by subdividing a RAID array into segments, or slices. These slices are effective hardware partitions of all drives in the array. Each slice is a separate LUN and appears as a separate volume on the host computer. After slicing, the LUN map must be set for each slice.



Slicing concept

Usage Scenario:

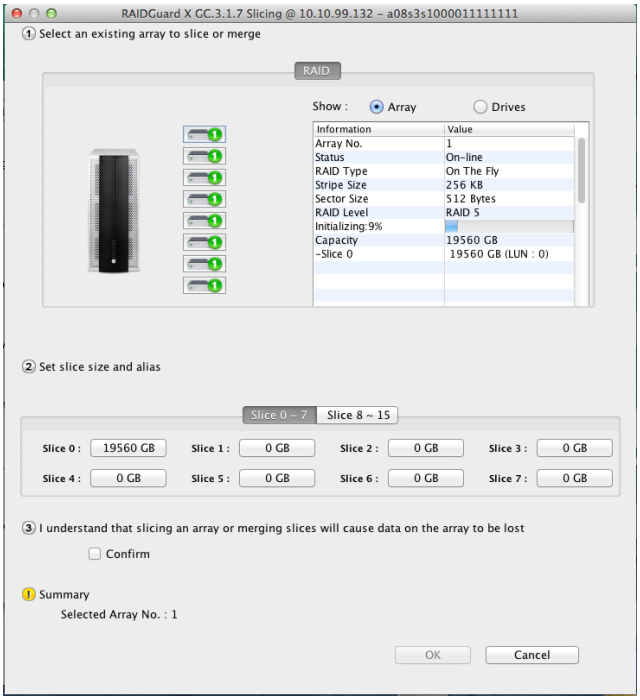
The access speed of the data stored in the outer circle is faster than that of the inner circle. Suppose that there are two slices in a hard drive. Slice 0 locates in the outer circles while Slice 1 the inner circle. In A/V making, you may store video data in Slice 0 and Audio data in random access in Slice 1.



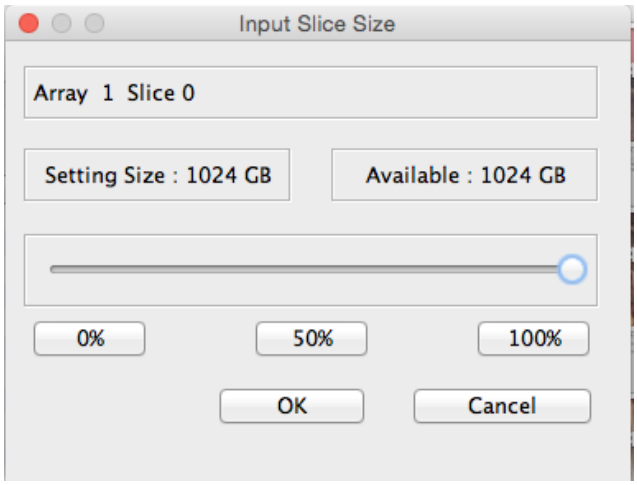
Note
You can create up to 16 slices per array and 64 LUNs on the controller. The total number of unique arrays' slices cannot exceed 16.

Follow the steps below to select an array to slice or merge.

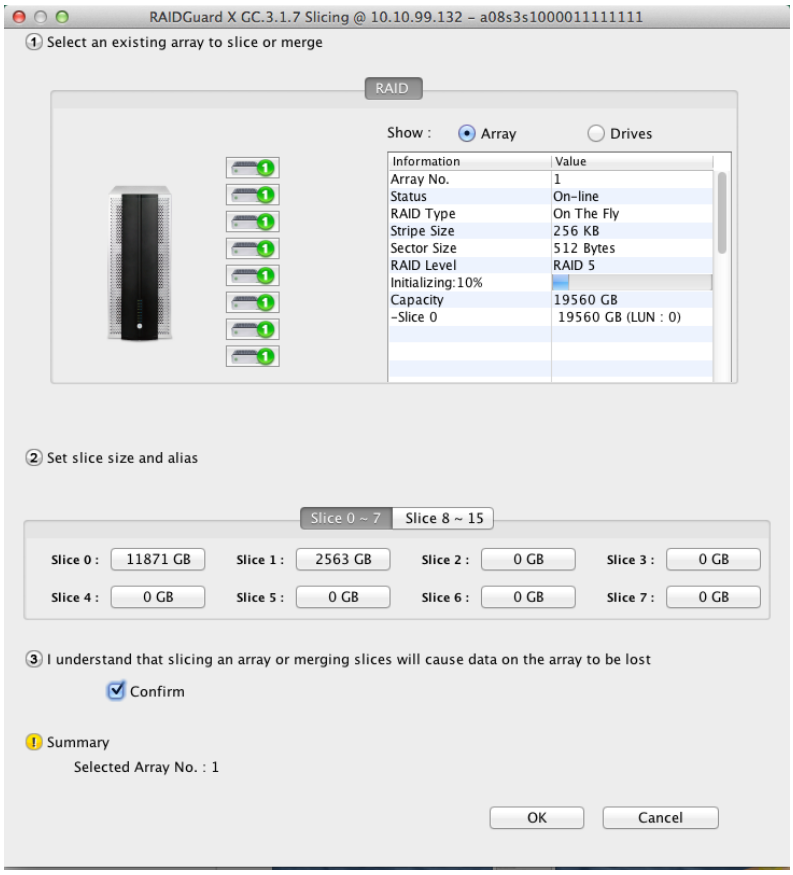
1. Select the array to slice or merge by clicking on a drive with an array number. The capacity is displayed. By default, Slice 0 contains the entire capacity of the disk array.
2. Click on Slice 0, and use the slide bar or buttons to free space for creating other slices. Click OK to confirm.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 Slicing @ 10.10.99.132 - a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an existing array to slice or merge
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Initializing:9%
Capacity 19560 GB
-Slice 0 19560 GB (LUN : 0)
2 Set slice size and alias
Slice 0 ~ 7
Slice 8 ~ 15
Slice 0 : 19560 GB
Slice 1 : 0 GB
Slice 2 : 0 GB
Slice 3 : 0 GB
Slice 4 : 0 GB
Slice 5 : 0 GB
Slice 6 : 0 GB
Slice 7 : 0 GB
3 I understand that slicing an array or merging slices will cause data on the array to be lost
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
OK
Cancel

3. Click on the slice to create, and use the slider bar or buttons to adjust the size. Click **OK** to confirm.



4. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK**.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 Slicing @ 10.10.99.132 - a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an existing array to slice or merge
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Initializing:10%
Capacity 19560 GB
-Slice 0 19560 GB (LUN : 0)
2 Set slice size and alias
Slice 0 ~ 7
Slice 8 ~ 15
Slice 0 : 11871 GB
Slice 1 : 2563 GB
Slice 2 : 0 GB
Slice 3 : 0 GB
Slice 4 : 0 GB
Slice 5 : 0 GB
Slice 6 : 0 GB
Slice 7 : 0 GB
3 I understand that slicing an array or merging slices will cause data on the array to be lost
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
OK
Cancel

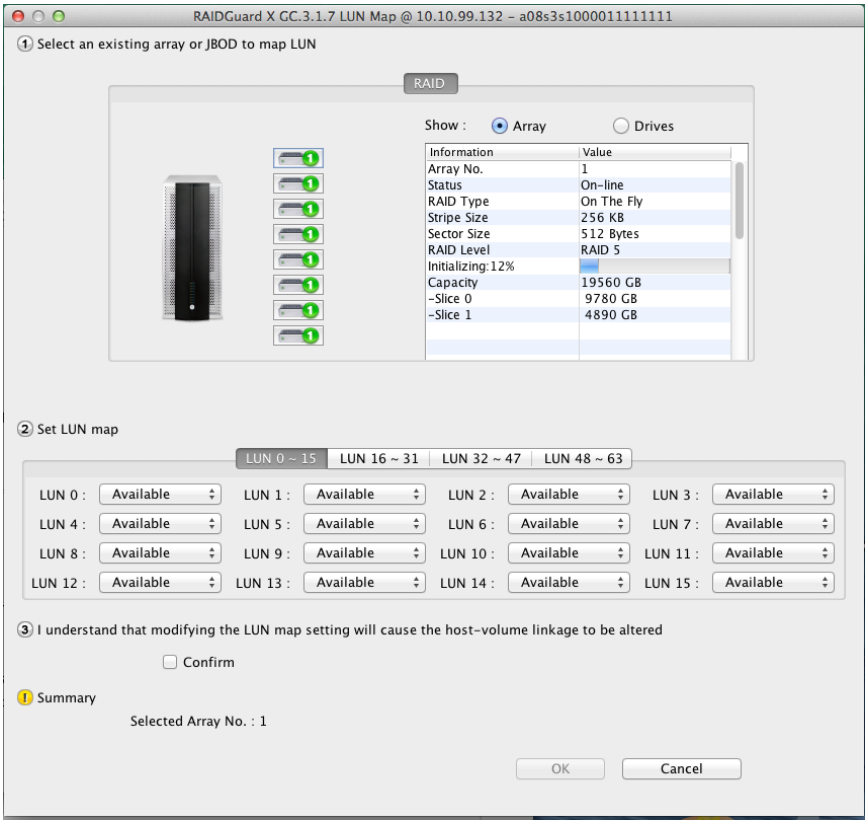
Note
Slices must be adjusted in order; for example - Slice 0, 1, 2, etc.

4.1.7.2 LUN Map

LUN, which stands for **L**ogical **U**nit **N**umber, is used to identify a logical unit in computer storage. When creating an array, you may select **Assign LUN automatically** to automatically assign a LUN to the new array. If **Assign LUN automatically** is not selected, you need to assign the LUN manually using LUN map. If the slice has been partitioned, you need to set its LUN Map.

Note
- One slice can only be assigned one LUN.
- The ExaSAN RAID controller supports up to 64 LUNs

1. Select the array to map by clicking on a drive with an array number.
2. Choose a LUN and from the drop down list select a slice to map to. Repeat for multiple LUNs.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK**.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 LUN Map @ 10.10.99.132 - a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an existing array or JBOD to map LUN
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Initializing:12%
Capacity 19560 GB
-Slice 0 9780 GB
-Slice 1 4890 GB
2 Set LUN map
LUN 0 ~ 15 LUN 16 ~ 31 LUN 32 ~ 47 LUN 48 ~ 63
LUN 0 : Available LUN 1 : Available LUN 2 : Available LUN 3 : Available
LUN 4 : Available LUN 5 : Available LUN 6 : Available LUN 7 : Available
LUN 8 : Available LUN 9 : Available LUN 10 : Available LUN 11 : Available
LUN 12 : Available LUN 13 : Available LUN 14 : Available LUN 15 : Available
3 I understand that modifying the LUN map setting will cause the host-volume linkage to be altered
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
OK
Cancel

4.1.7.3 Expansion

Expansion adds spare disks or new hard drives to an existing array. This is no need to create a new array or stop an array; you may add new disks online while the array is in use. Expansion can enlarge the capacity and frequency of an array. Although you may still access the array while doing Expansion, its performance is affected considerably. You may check the progress of Expansion in the main view.

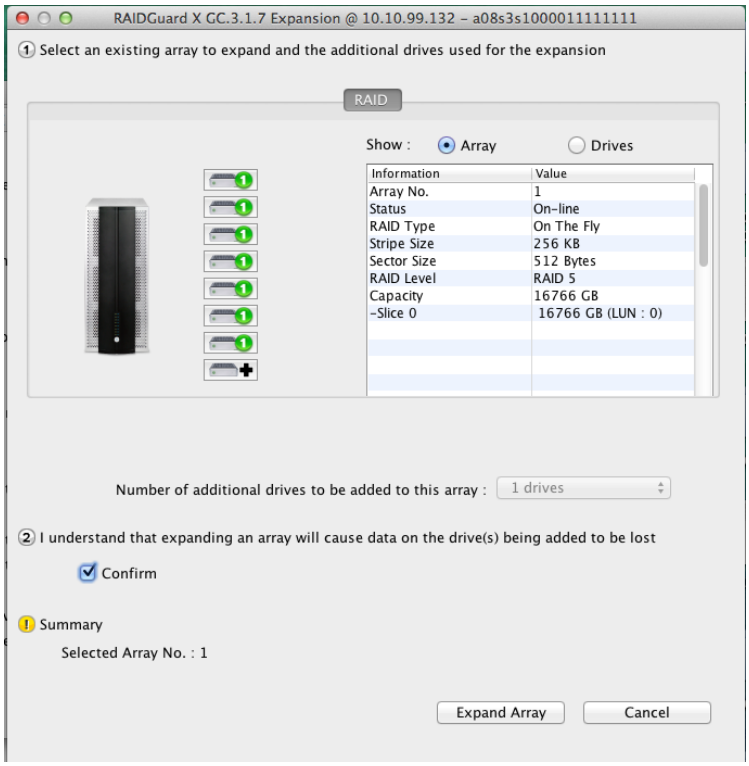
Example:

Note
The new hard drive must larger than existing drives of array.

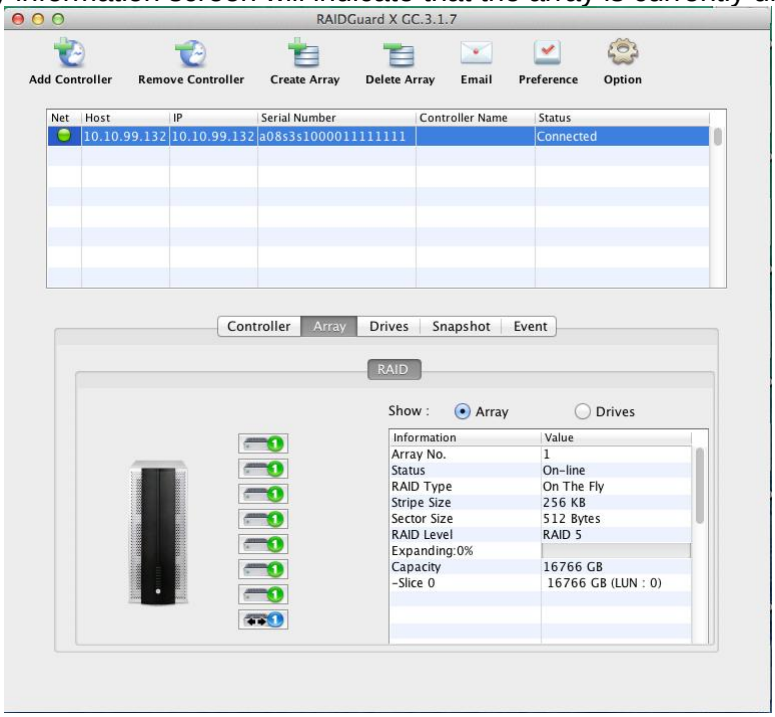
Follow the steps below to select an array to expand.

1. Select the array to add additional drives to, and select the number of drives to be added. A "+" sign appears above the drives to be added.

2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Expand Array**.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 Expansion @ 10.10.99.132 – a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an existing array to expand and the additional drives used for the expansion
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Capacity 16766 GB
-Slice 0 16766 GB (LUN : 0)
Number of additional drives to be added to this array : 1 drives
2 I understand that expanding an array will cause data on the drive(s) being added to be lost
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
Expand Array
Cancel

3. The Main array information screen will indicate that the array is currently under expansion.

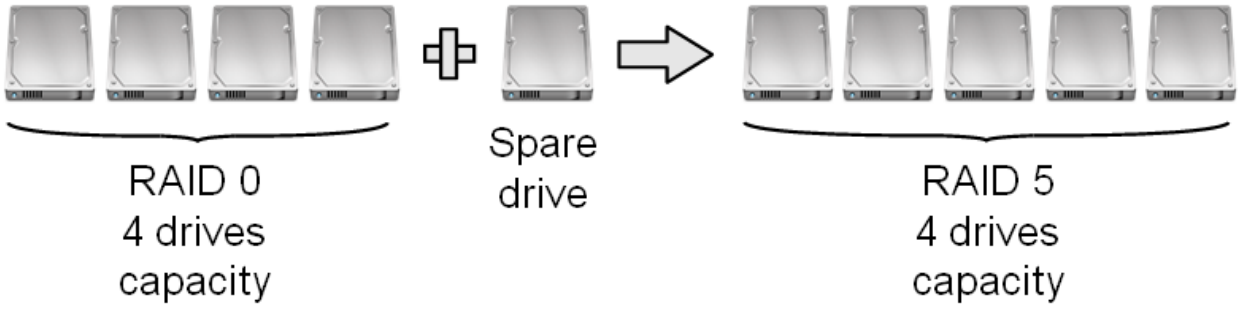


4.1.7.4 Migrations

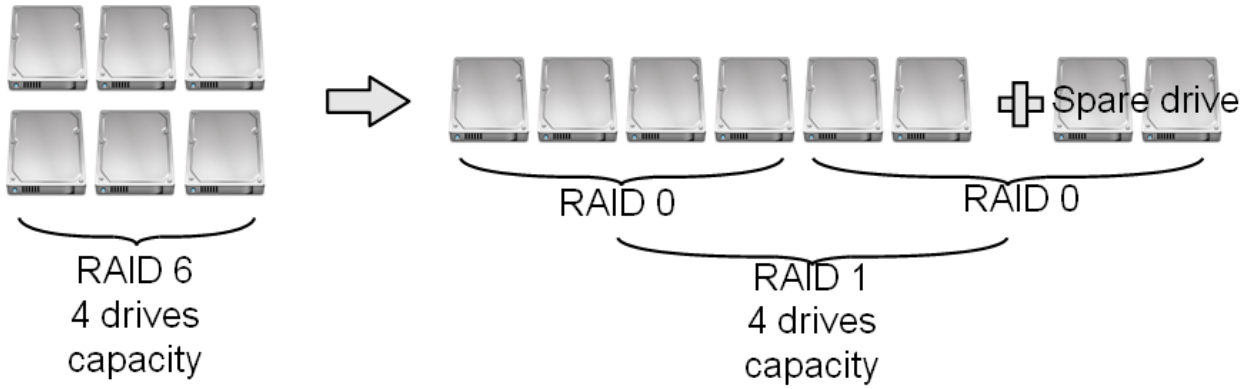
Different from Expansion, which enlarges an array by adding hard drives to a fixed RAID level, Migration changes the RAID level of an array. It allows live changes to the RAID without the need to delete the array and rebuild. This can be useful when new drives have been added, and a new array type needs to be created.

Example 1:
RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 0 (>11 drives)
RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 6 (>13 drives)
RAID 5 (12 drives) –Migrating→ RAID 0+1 (>22 drives)

Example 2:



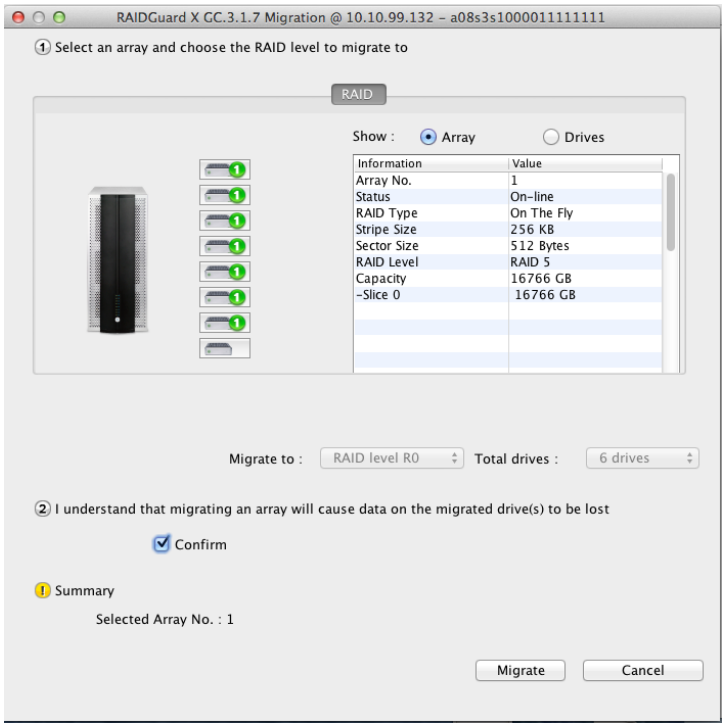
Example 3:



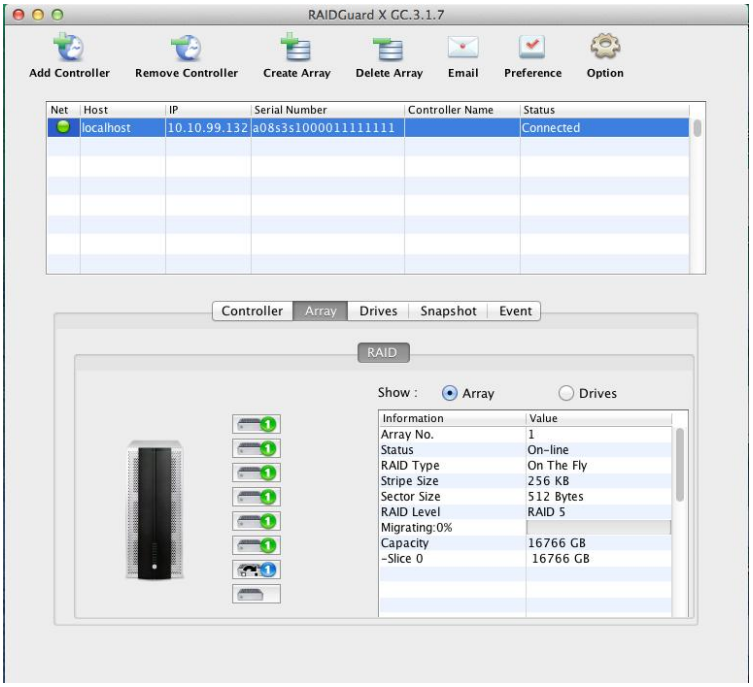
Note
The new hard drive must larger than existing drives of array.

Follow the steps below to select an array to migrate. This changes the RAID level, such as from RAID 1 to RAID 5.

1. Select the array to migrate. From the drop down menu, select the RAID level to migrate to, and then select the total number of drives to include in the array. A "+" appears above the drive(s) to be added, and a "-" sign above the drive(s) to be removed.
2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Migrate**.


RAIDGuard X GC.3.1.7 Migration @ 10.10.99.132 – a08s3s1000011111111
1 Select an array and choose the RAID level to migrate to
RAID
Show : Array Drives
Information Value
Array No. 1
Status On-line
RAID Type On The Fly
Stripe Size 256 KB
Sector Size 512 Bytes
RAID Level RAID 5
Capacity 16766 GB
-Slice 0 16766 GB
Migrate to : RAID level R0
Total drives : 6 drives
2 I understand that migrating an array will cause data on the migrated drive(s) to be lost
Confirm
Summary
Selected Array No. : 1
Migrate
Cancel

3. The main array information screen will indicate that the array is currently migrating.



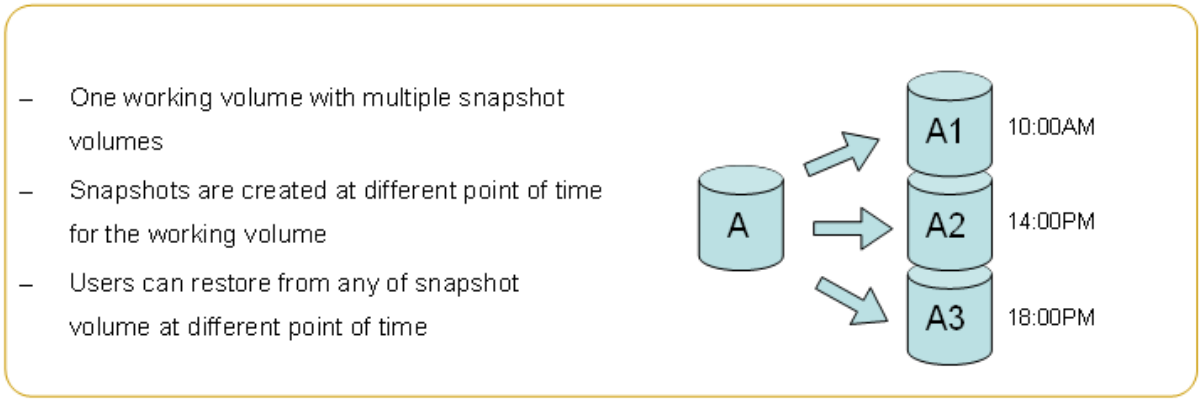
4.1.7.5 Snapshot

A snapshot is initialized with a data duplicate from a source to a target. The mirror snapshot is offered by the ExaSAN RAID controller.

> **Note**
> The source and target volume of the snapshot must be identical.

Before setting a snapshot, you need to set the slice in the array. The capacity of each slice and the number of shots should be in accordance with the space you need.

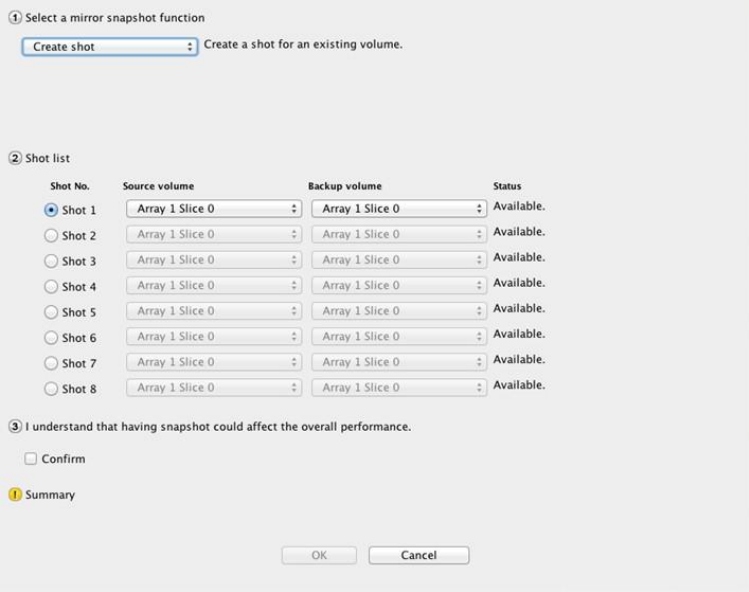
In the figure above, a snapshot can be created by splitting the source and target after the background sync is completed. The I/O mirroring is stopped, and the difference is under tracking in a bitmap table to support fast re-sync.


– One working volume with multiple snapshot volumes
– Snapshots are created at different point of time for the working volume
– Users can restore from any of snapshot volume at different point of time
A
A1
A2
A3
10:00AM
14:00PM
18:00PM

Create Shot

Create a snapshot of the selected slice. A maximum of 8 shots can be created. Once all shots have been used, older shots must be deleted before new ones can be taken.

1. Select the **Create Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to take a snapshot.



Delete Shot
Delete the selected shot.

1. Select the **Delete Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to delete a snapshot.

Split Shot
Split Now –
Split the selected shot or changes scheduling. The shot is split and read as two separate shots; therefore, it becomes two separate slices after being split.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Split Now radio button.
3. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
4. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

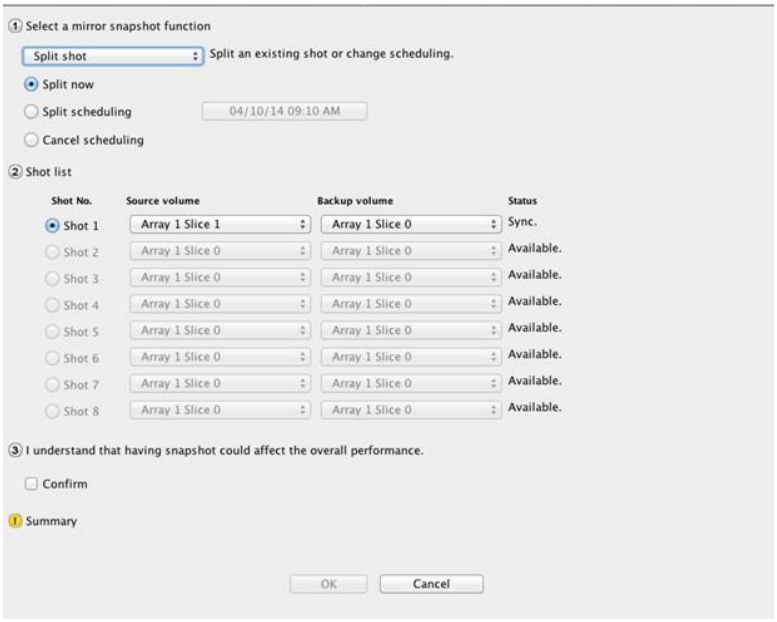
Split Scheduling –
Set any time to split shot.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Split Scheduling radio button.
3. Click on the time and date button to set split time.
4. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.

5. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

Cancel Scheduling –
Cancel the split shot scheduling.

1. Select the **Split Shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the Cancel Scheduling radio button.
3. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. From the respective drop down menus, select the source volume and destination volume. Unavailable shots are grayed out.
4. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.



Resynchronize Shot
Resynchronize the selected shot. This function can speed up mirroring for previous snapshots.

1. Select the **Resynchronize shot** function from the drop down menu.
2. Select the required shot by clicking on the Shot No. radio button. You can only select split shot for resynchronization.
3. Check the **Confirm** box and click **OK** to split the snapshot.

Note
1. The destination volume must be equal or larger in size than the source volume.
2. The source volume and the destination volume can be on different arrays.
3. The destination volume must NOT be mapped to a LUN.
4. A shot will not be deleted if the details of the array change. The only way to delete a shot is using the Delete Shot function under Snapshot.

4.1.7.6 Health Center

To ensure the accuracy of the RAID parity data, ExaSAN RAID controller offers Background checking and “Rebuild parity data”. During checking or rebuilding parity, the performance of the array will be affected. You may check the progress of in the Main view or in the Health Center.

Follow the steps below to select an array to verify, rebuild, or condition.

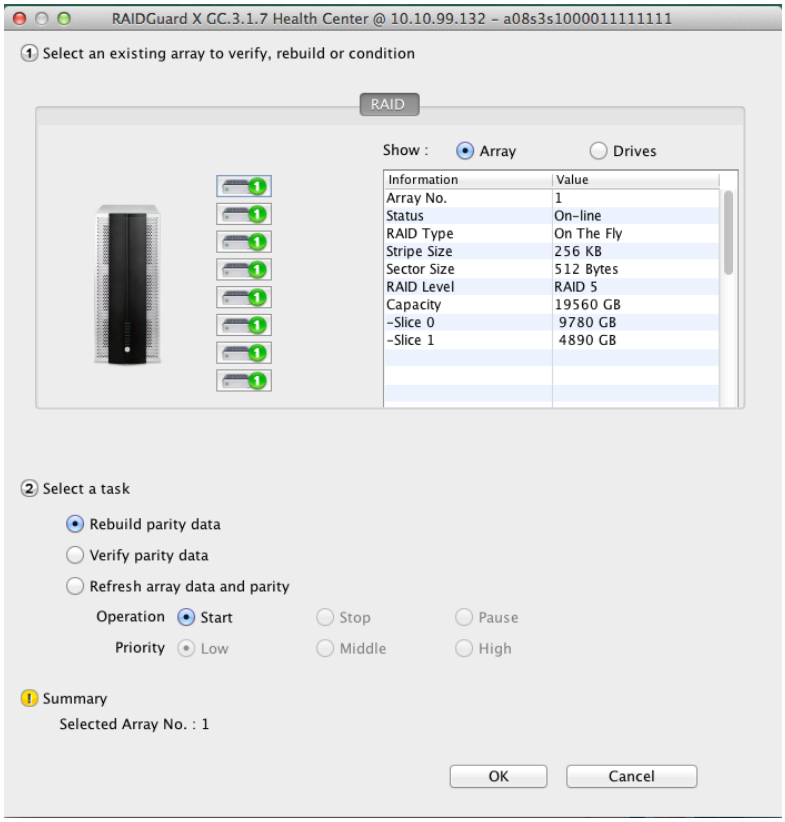
1. Select the Array to verify, rebuild, or condition.
2. Click the radio button to:

   Rebuild the parity data – Rebuilding parity on an array uses the data on the array to create new parity data, no repair problems with the data.

   Verify the parity data – Verify that the data is free of errors.

   Refresh array data and parity – Select the priority between Low, Med., or High. This process scans, rewrites, and scrubs bad data conditions caused by excessive vibration during drive I/Os, or data degradation caused by Adjacent Track Interference (ATI).

3. Click OK to start the operation.



4. The main array information screen will indicate that the array is undergoing rebuilding, verification, or refreshing.

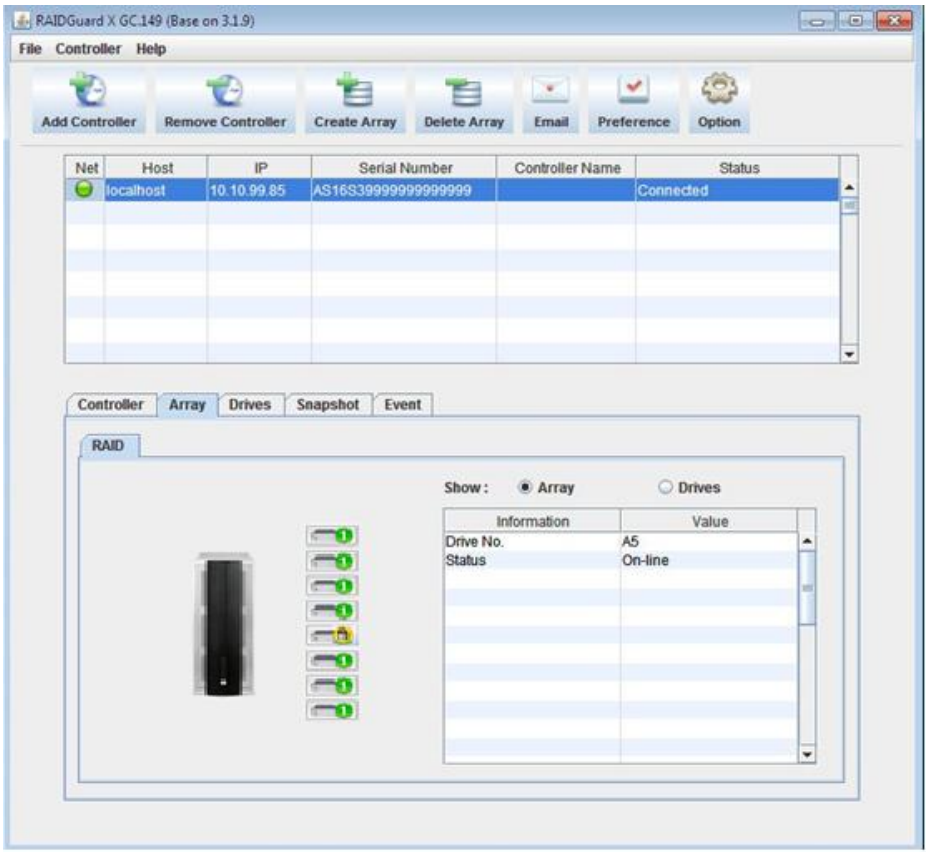
4.1.7.7 Unlock Drives

The RAID controller may lock abnormal drives in an array. You may unlock these drives and rejoin them in an array. Drives may be locked with one of two conditions:

1. If a drive returns data too slowly, the controller determines the drive is experiencing a fault and executes Drive Drop. When you unlock the drive, it will be added directly to the array if there has not been drive access during the locked period. Otherwise, the controller will rebuild parity data on the drive when the drive is online.

> **Note**
> If “Drive Drop" occurs, it is recommended to use S.M.A.R.T. to check the drive condition and replace it if necessary.

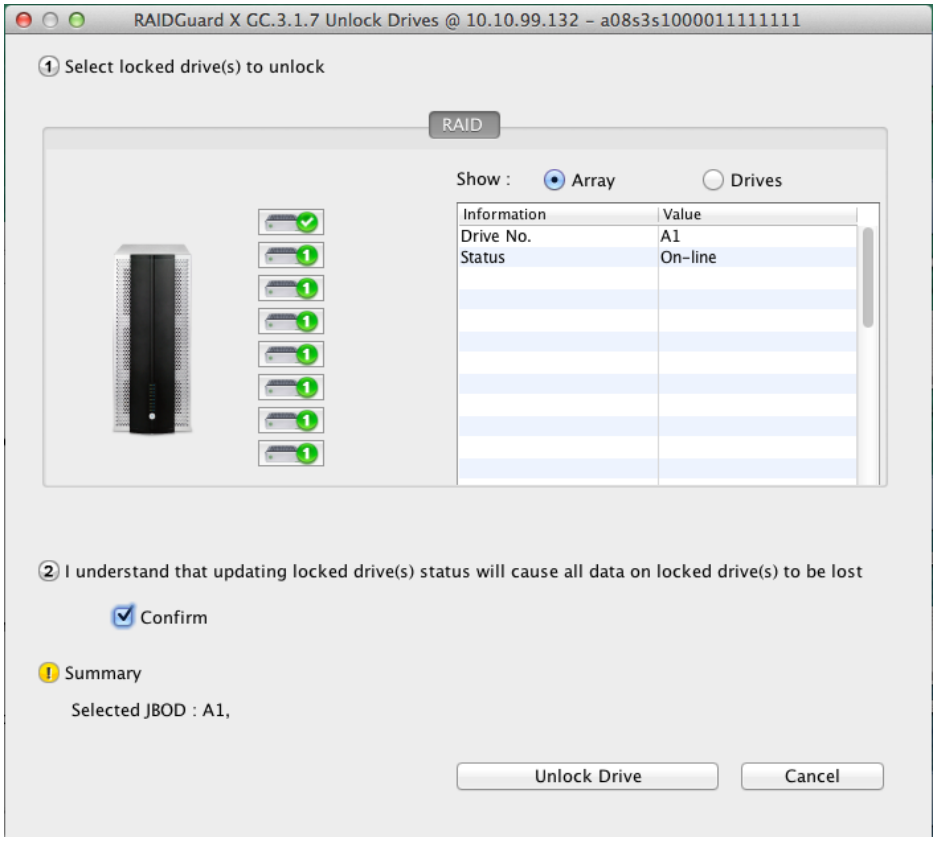
2. When a drive has been used by ExaSAN RAID system, that drive will be locked if insert it to another RAID system.



Drive 5 Locked

Follow the steps below to select a drive to unlock.

1. Select the drive with the icon. It will change to the icon.
2. Check the **Confirm** box and click **Unlock Drive**



4.1.8 Updating the ExaSAN RAID system Firmware

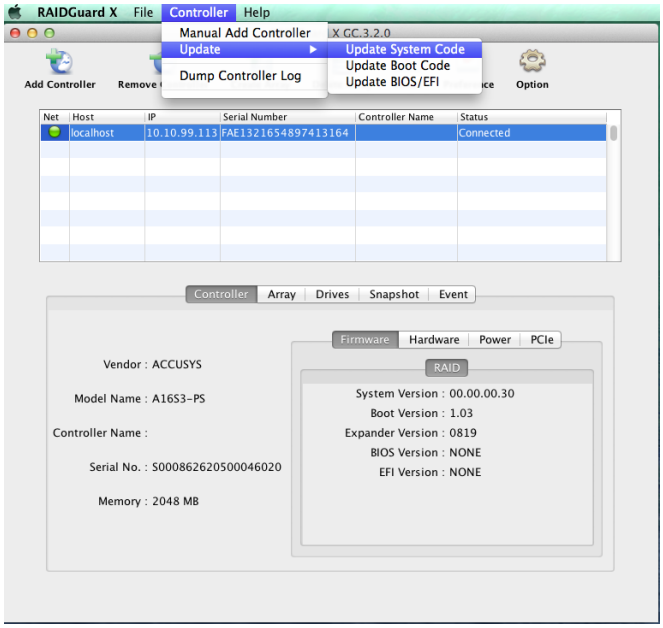
Follow the steps in this section to update the firmware of your ExaSAN RAID system. Use caution to prevent a loss of power to the ExaSAN RAID system during this process.

4.1.8.1 Preparing the Firmware Update Files

1. Note the current System Version, Boot Version, BIOS Version and EFI version on your ExaSAN RAID system. These can be viewed in the Main menu firmware tab.
2. Visit the website below:
3. http://www.accusys.com.tw/support/download.htm, Under the “Download” link, you can click the folder to look for your ExaSAN system model
4. Proceed to the next section to update the firmware files.

4.1.8.2 Installing the Firmware Update Files

1. Select Controller in the Menu bar and select **Update**.



2. Update System Code, Boot Code, BIOS/EFI individually from the download path. During the update process, the RAID system will stop all data access.

> **Caution**
> Do NOT interrupt or stop updates that are in progress.

3. Once the updates are complete, make sure to power off the ExaSAN RAID system and host using the proper power down sequence and then power on, again following the proper power on sequence.

5. RAID Overview

5. RAID Overview

This chapter gives an overview of RAID storage system within the context of recommended setting of ExaSAN based SAN environment to provide fast, shared storage to client computers.

5.1 How RAID Works

RAID, or Redundant Array of Independent Disks, is a data-storage technology that spreads data across multiple drives. This technology provides several benefits over a single large hard disk, including:

- Data redundancy for protection and availability
- Higher performance as a result of reading or writing on several drives simultaneously
- Scalability for expansion of storage

The ExaSAN-family RAID systems use a hardware controller, which manages up to 48 HDDs. By segmenting and writing or reading data on multiple drives simultaneously, the RAID controller achieves fast and highly efficient storage and access.

The way the controller stores and retrieves data on the RAID system is determined by the RAID level and storage method you choose. For ExaSAN applications, the recommended setting is mainly RAID 1 and RAID 5, which will be discussed in details later in this chapter.

Once you have defined a group of drive modules as a RAID set, the controller groups those drives into “logical disks.” On the ExaSAN RAID system, each logical disk appears to the client system as one Logical Unit (LUN), regardless of the number of actual drives in that logical unit.

5.2 Data Storage Methods

The controller stores and retrieves data on a RAID system using techniques such as “data striping”, “data mirroring”, and “data parity”.

5.2.1 Data Striping

Multiple hard disk drives in a RAID group, referred to as a “set” or “array,” are divided (partitioned) into stripes. The controller spreads stripes across the disks in alternating sections on each drive.

In data-intensive environments such as digital video editing, performance is optimized by writing data across small stripes, so that each record spans all drives. This method ensures that access to large records is very fast because data is transferred in parallel across multiple drives.

5.2.2 Data Mirroring

To mirror data, the RAID controller duplicates all data on two different disks. One disk is the primary; the other is the mirrored disk. The primary and mirrored disks are synchronized; that is, anything written to one disk is also written to the other. Mirrored data is very secure because if one disk fails, the data is available from the other disk.

5.2.3 Data Parity

The controller can generate “parity” for the ability to protect and rebuild data. Parity protects stored information without requiring data mirroring. When data is protected by parity, it is still available if a drive fails. Parity-protected data is reconstructed using the parity formula. You can remove and replace a failed disk (known as “hot swapping”), and the controller then rebuilds the data using the information on the remaining drives.

5.3 RAID Levels

The ExaSAN RAID system supports several RAID levels and configurations. Each level has a different architecture and provides varying degrees of performance and fault tolerance. Each level has characteristics to achieve maximum performance or redundancy depending on the data environment.

5.3.1 RAID 0: Striping

RAID level 0, striping only, is the fastest and most efficient array type, but offer no fault-tolerance. Any drive failure destroys the data in the array.

5.3.2 RAID 1: Mirroring

RAID level 1, mirroring, has been used for Metadata LUN because of its simplicity and high levels of reliability and availability. Mirroring uses two drives, each drive stores identical data. RAID 1 provides very high data reliability and improved performance for read-intensive applications, but this level has a high capacity cost because it retains a full copy of your data on each drive in mirror set.

In a RAID 1 configuration, the capacity of the smallest drive is the maximum storage area.

5.3.3 RAID 5: Independent data disks with distributed parity

By distributing the parity information across all drives in a set, RAID level 5 achieves high reliability and data availability. It also offers the highest read data transaction rate of all levels along with a medium write rate. The low ratio of ECC (Error Correction Code) parity disks to data disks offers hardware efficiency. Disk failure has a moderate impact on the total transfer rate.

5.3.4 RAID 6: Independent data disks with two Independent parity schemes

RAID level 6 extends RAID level 5 by adding an additional parity block; thus it uses block-level striping with two parity blocks distributed across all member disks. RAID 6 does not have a performance penalty for read operations, but it does have a performance penalty on write operations because of the overhead associated with parity calculations.

RAID 6 is no more space inefficient than RAID 5 with a hot spare drive when used with a small number of drives, but as arrays become bigger and have more drives the loss in storage capacity becomes less important and the probability of data loss is greater. RAID 6 provides protection against data loss during an array rebuild, when a second drive is lost, a bad block read is encountered, or when a human operator accidentally removes and replaces the wrong disk drive when attempting to replace a failed drive.

5.3.5 RAID 0+1: Striped set with Mirroring

RAID 0+1 combines the advantages of RAID 0 and RAID 1 with none of the disadvantages. RAID 0+1 creates a mirror of the primary striped set. RAID 0+1 provides optimal speed and reliability.

6. Appendices

Appendix A: FAQs

1. **Q: Why is my disk LED status RED?**
   A: This is likely caused by a faulty hard drive. Replace the faulty drive as soon as possible to protect your data.

2. **Q: After an array has been created in RAIDGuardX, but the host does not find the array volume.**
   A: Please check the LUN Mapping to ensure the array volume has been corrected mapped to a LUN. If this is not the case, try restarting the system and it will be automatically recognized.

3. **Q: Why doesn't the performance reach the expected levels while testing the A08S2-TS? Why isn't the performance steady enough?**
   A: If the performance is unsteady or not achieving the expected level, in many cases, the HDD is the cause. Since the A08S2-TS is a highly efficient product, there is extreme demand placed on each HDD. As a result, it is strongly recommended to use the newest enterprise level HDD.

4. **Q: Why is the A08S2-TS generating warning beeps?**
   A: Please check the LED indicators on the A08S2-TS front panel against the appropriate user documentation for your particular storage system. Launch RAID Guard X to obtain Event Log information for further analysis. For detail definition of warning beeper, please refer to section 1.3.1.2

5. **Q: If "Find no RAID card" appears in a Windows host server, how can this be resolved?**
   A: Please make sure the PCIe cable is properly connected to the back of the host server and the RAID system. Check the Device Manager in Windows to confirm that the correct driver has been installed for the HBA. If both conditions have been verified and the problem persists, please run RAIDGuardX Server again, or using "Manually Add Controller" option.

6. **Q: On a MAC host, after entering the GUI and adding a controller, there is no device listed. How can this be resolved?**
   A: Please first confirm whether the hardware environment of the RAID system is functional. Also, ensure that the system drivers have been correctly installed. Next, go to "**Utilities > System Information> Software > Extensions"** and check whether ACS6x.kext is listed. Reload RAID Guard X Server service / Libaray/ StartupItems/ RGX_Accusys/ **DTRGuiSrv01_64** If the situation persists, please verify again that the hardware environment is not the source of the problem and reinstall using the MAC installer.

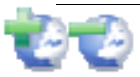
7. **Q: In Windows 7, after having confirmed that the files on the installation CD have been completely installed, why does it still show "Find no RAID card"?**
   A: Windows 7 has a built-in ability to automatically reduce the potential of security breaches in the system. It does that by automatically enabling a feature called User Account Control (UAC). When UAC is enabled, the RAIDGuardX server cannot detect the controller and thus displays the message "Find no RAID card." To resolve this, disable UAC and run RAIDGuardX server as "administrator".

a. Type “MsConfig” in Start Search to start System Configuration. Then go to Tools tab, select Change UAC settings, then click on Launch button.
b. Slide the slider bar to the lowest value (towards Never Notify) with the description showing “Never notify me”.
c. Restart the computer to turn off UAC.

8. **Q: When inserting the HDD into my A08S2-TS, why does RAIDGuardX show the HDD mode as Lock?**
   A: The lock indicates that the HDD has been previous used in Accusys products and that it contains a portion of a RAID data. If the data can be deleted, you can unlock the HDD, refer to section Unlock drives.

9. **Q: I have connected the cable to the Host server, but I can't see "new disk drive" on the host device management.**
   A: There are three possibilities:
   a. Please ensure the QSFP cable is connected securely. You should be able to hear a "click" sound when you connect the cable to the connector.
   b. Please check the connection port is correct. DAS is for host directly, SAN is for connecting to ExaSAN switches.
   c. Please check if the installer and the driver have been installed correctly. If the installation has completed and the error still persists, it may be a compatibility issue. Send an email to support@accusys.com.tw and briefly describe the problem. We will contact you to assist you in resolving the issue.

Appendix B: Icons

ICON	Description
Main Menu Icons	
	RAIDGuardX Server icon – The icon that is on the rackmount and notification area
	Add / Delete a controller – Select the controller to administer
	Create / Delete an array – Change the arrays within the RAID system.
	Preferences – Activate alarms, mode settings, cache settings, password, and controller card time.
	Email – Set the addresses to send e-mail alerts to.
	Option – Set the Slice, expansion, migration, health, disk locking, LUNs, and take a snapshot of the array.
Option Menu Icons	
	Slicing an array into several parts
	LUN Map – Assign a LUN to a slice
	Expand an array to larger capacity by adding disks
	Migrate from one RAID level to another target RAID level
	Snapshot – Create a backup of a slice
	Health Center – Repair / Maintain arrays
	Unlock – Fix locked drives
Application Icons	
	Drive icon
	Drive belongs to Array 1, 2, 3, 4
	A drive being deleted in Array 1, 2, 3, 4
	A JBOD drive being selected
	JBOD being deleted
	A drive being selected
	An offline drive
	A locked drive

	A drive being selected for expansion / migration / rebuilding
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, migration
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, expansion
	A transition drive state during the array 1, 2, 3, 4, auto-rebuild
	RAID Levels

Appendix C: Customer Service and Support

C.1 System Log

When you contact us for technical support, our support staff might ask for your system log file for troubleshooting purpose.

1) RAID controller log by Dump controller log of RAIDGuard X
2) Client operation system log. (it's better to record related error message.)

C.2 Contact Us

For customer services and technical support, locate an Accusys office near you from the link below:

http://www.accusys.com.tw/about-accusys/contact-us.html

Or, you may email us at support@accusys.com.tw

C.3 Our Website

Please visit our websites frequently for the most up-to-date product and support information.

All countries: www.accusys.com.tw

Korea: http://accusys.co.kr